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Record and tribute

Canton, N.Y.

1914

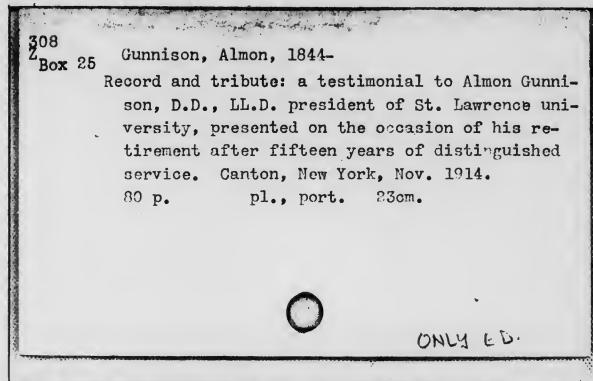
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*A. T. GUNNISON*

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Record and Tribute

Almon Gunnison, D.D., LL.D.

St. Lawrence University

Canton, New York

1899-1914



ALMON GUNNISON, D.D., LL.D.

RECORD AND TRIBUTE

A TESTIMONIAL TO

ALMON GUNNISON, D.D., LL.D.

PRESIDENT OF

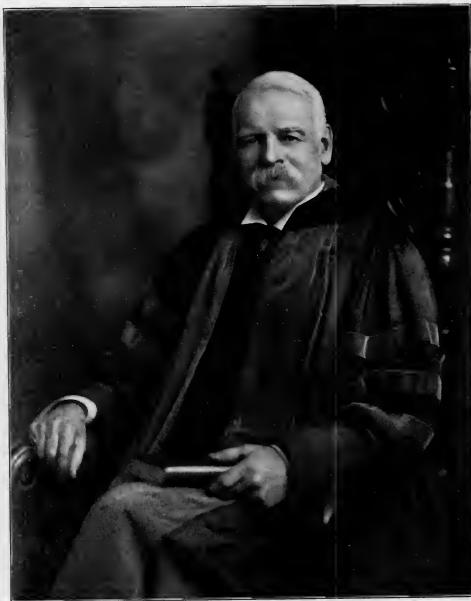
ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY

Presented on the occasion of his Retirement  
after Fifteen Years of distinguished service.

CANTON, NEW YORK

NOV. 1914

**INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE**



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MAR. 28, 1916. #3 (B).

#### PREFATORY NOTE

The "Record and Tribute" which the reader holds in his hand is the typographical rendering of a number of occurrences in which a good many people were interested. They were grouped about one personality and were evoked by one incident in his life. But what he had done before and was likely to do afterwards imported such significance into them as made all who were concerned wish to have a replica of them for preservation. As usual in such cases, the appeal was taken to the printer, and herewith is presented the result.

## THE RESIGNATION

In his Annual Report to the Board of Trustees of St. Lawrence University, presented June 8, 1914, President Gunnison said:

It has been my intention during my entire occupancy of office to retire when I had reached the age of seventy years; for I recognize the fact that there is a time to be young and a time to be old and I have always dreaded lagging superfluous on the stage. Old men for counsel, young men for action, is the law of life, and the Presidency of St. Lawrence University requires a man of action, as well as a man of counsel. I would say that beyond the fact that the calendar is against me I have no intimation that age has yet fastened its fangs upon me—but the scars I received as I passed the seventieth milestone are, I fear, permanent decorations; and while I can ignore facts, we have to succumb to figures. I am seventy years of age, and my good wife reminds me that I have got to stop calling myself young. Gentlemen, you will all have to come to it and I tell you, you won't like it. I intended to resign at this meeting to take effect at the end of my fifteen years of service, November 1. The new college year would have begun and the college machinery would have been adjusted.

The considerations which influenced Dr. Gunnison to withhold the actual letter of his resignation in June, were the occasion of the appointment of a committee to consider the entire situation. Numerous conferences and various proposals ensued, all having their impulse in the desire to prolong his connection with the University as its head. After some weeks of delay and deliberation Dr. Gunnison felt that he must carry out his original intention, and accordingly sub-

mitted his resignation, "to take effect November 1, 1914."

#### ACTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The committee appointed for the purpose recommended that the following testimonial to Dr. Gunnison be adopted and spread upon the minutes of the Trustees, and an engrossed copy thereof be sent to Dr. Gunnison. The recommendation was unanimously adopted.

Fifteen years ago Dr. Gunnison relinquished a congenial pastorate to accept the call of The St. Lawrence University to become its President.

In this new field he found conditions such as would have discouraged one less resolute. The endowment of the institution was meagre; the classes small; the faculty insufficiently paid; the buildings and equipment inadequate.

Dr. Gunnison, with the aid of a loyal faculty, staunch alumni, and a host of friends, and equipped with scholarly attainments, executive ability, unlimited resourcefulness, a most charming personality, and dynamic enthusiasm, has in a few years achieved the greater St. Lawrence of today.

During his stewardship the endowment has grown from \$156,000 to \$562,000; the student body has quadrupled; there have been added the departments of Law and Agriculture; the receipts from tuition have increased from \$2,800 to \$9,288.\* the buildings have grown from four to fourteen; the campus area has been multiplied many times; a magnificent athletic field has been provided; the older buildings have been reconstructed; the faculty has been enlarged and its compensation made adequate; old friends have been retained and hosts of new ones acquired.

\*The total income of the College in 1888, as reported by the Treasurer, was \$12,522.63. The total income of the College in 1914 was \$38,070.70.

Any public expression which we may give of our esteem for Dr. Gunnison and of our appreciation of the magnificent work which he has performed during his incumbency must, because of human limitations, be miserably inadequate to express our affection for the man, and our admiration and gratitude for the splendid results of his work. We recognize the sacrifice he has made in the interest of St. Lawrence by devoting to its upbuilding and permanence the golden years of his life.

Our gratitude and good wishes will follow Dr. Gunnison always.

#### MADE PRESIDENT EMERITUS

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees held in Canton, Saturday, October 24, it was unanimously enacted that the Rev. Dr. Almon Gunnison be appointed and constituted President Emeritus of the St. Lawrence University, with a salary of one thousand dollars. The office had not before existed, but was created to insure the continuance of his official connection with the University.

#### AT THE ALBANY CONVOCATION

The Convocation of New York State educators at Albany, occurring October 23, the evening before the farewell reception planned to take place in Canton, was availed of by those present to put on record their esteem for two of their number who were just retiring from active public service, Dr. J. M. Taylor, of Vassar College, and Dr. Almon Gunnison, of St. Lawrence. Judge Ledyard P. Hale was asked to speak in behalf of the latter, and responded in the following address:

I appear on this occasion more as an alumnus than as a trustee, and far more as an individual than as Judge Hale.

I could not allow this convocation to go by without testifying in public on behalf of everybody who has an interest in St. Lawrence University, to the quality as well as the quantity of service rendered to that institution by President Gunnison in his fifteen years' administration.

St. Lawrence University is not a university in the modern acceptation of that term, and in fact never was and never was intended to be. But in 1854 the terms "college" and "university" were not distinguished as to meaning, and anything was a university that undertook to do more than conduct the old-fashioned college; and it was intended at that time that there should be, in addition to the college, a theological school and a law school. The theological school was established, and later the law school was established, but was subsequently discontinued for many years.

St. Lawrence University is a college, and it answers the same function in that region of the state of New York north of the Adirondacks in the St. Lawrence valley that Middlebury College exercises, and has for 150 years, in the state of Vermont. The St. Lawrence county people came almost wholly from the state of Vermont and they brought with them the ideas of education and morality that were prevalent in that state. As great an observer and as accurate a man in the statement of his observations as the author, Irving Bacheller, has said, and said after thought, than in St. Lawrence county and in Franklin county and in all that region lying between the Adirondacks and the St. Lawrence river are today found more perfect examples of New England character, habits and modes of thought than exist in any quarter of New England except solely in Vermont.

So that we have had there an institution which has been of use to us. Fifteen years ago it was threatened with the necessity of closing its doors unless the endowment could be

permanently increased. It was in the stress of need of actual funds for continued life when President Gunnison was called to its presidency. I am glad to say that every prediction that was made for him by his friends—and I was one of them—has been more than fulfilled. His actual accomplishment in the office of president of that institution has been greater than any friend of his could possibly have foretold.

He has more than quadrupled the endowment. He has more than quadrupled the buildings. Under his administration the number of students has more than doubled; the amount paid in for tuition has more than quadrupled; and along with it all has gone an increase in the fibre and the character of the faculty, and of the teaching, and of the administration.

There has not been, on the whole, any period of years since he came to the presidency that the school has not lived upon its actual income. There were a few years when subscriptions had to be obtained to pay the annual deficit, but taking the period as a whole, giving some credit to these subscriptions, the endowment has been so increased from time to time that at the end of the financial year the bills incurred during the year have been paid out of income, and I am happy to say that this last financial year we had an actual surplus in good faith of upwards of \$2000 of receipts over all our expenditures and all our liabilities.

I shall not on this occasion take more time. On the fiftieth anniversary, which was in 1904, Professor Charles K. Gaines, who was a classmate of mine, read a poem from which I am going to read a few verses. Doctor Gunnison had the privilege of being there during the last five years of the first half century, and the greater privilege of being there the first ten years of the second half century of the life of St. Lawrence. And what we think of it I am going to ask you to infer from the verses which I shall read from the poem by Professor Gaines:

"Not beneath fretted arch and glittering dome  
In mansions lifted by the spell of gold,  
Are found the hearts that truly love a home;  
But under smoky rafters, warped and old,  
Shut in by walls that scarce shut out the cold,  
Close gathered round a hearth of roughest stone,  
The sturdy stock is bred that truly loves its own.

"Rightly we love our own; in all the earth  
Are none that claim my heart in like degree  
With those I reared, and those who gave me birth,  
And her I chose; justly mine own to me  
Are more than multitudes; there well may be  
Regions more fair than this, but none so dear;  
Here have I set my home; my native land is here.

"And thus we love our college; 'tis our own.  
To us the plain brick walls on yonder hill  
Are more than all the piles of sculptured stone  
For others reared, though wrought with matchless skill.  
We loved it in our happiest days, and still  
We love the very ground whereon it stands,  
And ever at its call throng forth with willing hands.

"Can any man among you build an oak?  
Could you, with money rear it in a day—  
Fashion its living trunk by hammer-stroke?  
Dead walls you might pile high, of stone or clay;  
The oak mounts heavenward in a slower way.  
In fifty years a sturdy stalk you see;  
After an hundred years—behold the perfect tree!"

Dr. Gunnison being presented by the presiding officer, was warmly received by the assembly, and spoke as follows:

I am glad to be here today. I have to state that my work as a fellow associate with you is to be ended and that, with my friend, Doctor Taylor, of Vassar, I am about to join the great army of has-beens. We, who are about to die, salute you!

Following the language of my friend, Doctor Rhees, who used a phrase involving the word "obituary," I can say that, like most people, I have never before participated in my own funeral, and I wish to say, from what I have heard, that I have enjoyed my obituary very much.

I detect in this unique celebration that sends me into retirement, the fine Roman hand of my long-loved friend, the Chancellor, and my new friend, the Commissioner of Education, of the State of New York. I have known him but a short time, but, with you all, I have learned to love him for his kindness, for his genial spirit, and for all those splendid qualities that show us that he not only fills but adorns the large place that he occupies in the educational system of New York.

I am personally grateful to my old friend and colleague, Judge Hale, for the more than kind words that he has said of me, and I esteem it a great honor that the Board of Regents, who have shown to me and to others connected with our educational system unwearied and unmeasured kindnesses, is thus sending us into retirement with its good wishes.

The greatest thing to me and to you in the world is a college. There is nothing like it. Other things grow old with years, but the mosses that gather on college walls do not weaken but increase their strength. Long ago it was said by a man who has become distinguished in our educational world in the State of New York, "I would give \$100,000 if the college that I represent could only have a history." It had moved from a small town into one of the largest and most enterprising cities in the State and he felt that the largest asset that it could have in its work would be a history.

It is a great thing for a college to have the strength of years. The mosses gather on its walls but they give it power, and the alumni go out into their waiting world with a constantly enlarging affection for their alma mater.

It has been a great privilege to me to be associated with this work, and to have received from my associates the many kindnesses and courtesies that have come to me. And as I stand here, with the newcomers behind me, whose reception is to follow these mortuary remarks, we can say that in our heart of hearts we envy them the great work that lies before them, which in the providence of God it is permitted us to lay aside.

And I wish to thank my college associates, and the many secondary teachers in the State whom I have met under such pleasant auspices. I want to thank them for the courtesy and the kindness that I have received at their hands, that they have been forgetful of my faults and remembered the few virtues that I have possessed. I bid them, with all heartiness, my God-speed. I shall always remember this supreme moment in my history and I shall carry with me into my retirement pleasant memories, not only of this hour, but of the many hours that I have worked with them at our common task.

It is a great thing to have been privileged for a little time to build some stones into so large an institution as a college, and to breathe into the minds and the hearts and the characters of the young who are to shape and influence the future, those things that have not only the promise of the life that is, but of the life that is to be.

I thank you all for this kindness and for the many kindnesses that I have received at your hands, and like my associate, Dr. Taylor, I offer the prayer that your lives may be long, and that your prosperity may be as large as your desires.

#### THE RECEPTION IN CANTON

The great event in the series of which this is the record occurred, appropriately, in Canton and in one of the University buildings. Immediately after Dr. Gunnison's resignation became known in the village, and in the surrounding country, a common feeling took possession of those interested in the University, which was not long in crystallizing into a definite purpose. A volunteer committee, having Secretary Frank N. Cleaveland for scribe and Mr. W. N. Beard, of the First National Bank, for Chairman, was formed to put into effective operation the will and wish of the University community.

It was agreed that an opportunity should be given for such a wide and free expression of the general esteem for Dr. and Mrs. Gunnison, and of the general regret at their going, as would include practically everybody. A reception was accordingly planned to be held in the Gymnasium on Saturday evening, October 24. The invitation gave no hint of any lines drawn. It was to be a popular greeting to those in whom the people of the North Country had come to feel a sort of proprietorship. Of course, the University family—faculties, students, trustees—had the function in charge; and of course they comprised the major part of the reception procession. But in the close and continuous stream that poured along for hours, as conducted by an organized body of student ushers, were representatives of the county, the city, the professions, the trades, in short of the whole pop-

ulace. The *Hill News*, published every Monday by the Press Association of the University, printed the following account of what it entitled a "Brilliant Occasion":

In the presence of between four and five hundred admiring but sorrowing friends, Dr. Almon Gunnison, the retiring president of the University was tendered a farewell reception in the Gymnasium on Saturday evening. In recognition of his work, he was presented with a handsome silver loving-cup, and was made President Emeritus of the University—the first who ever received that honor at St. Lawrence.

The reception line formed soon after eight o'clock and consisted of General E. A. Merritt, chairman of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Gunnison, Mrs. Gunnison, Dr. I. M. Atwood, Mrs. Atwood, Hon. Ledyard P. Hale, '76 and Mrs. Hale. Men from the classes of '16 and '17 acted as ushers, girls from the class of '16 served refreshments, and four girls from the class of '14 presided at the refreshment tables.

After the guests had been escorted down the reception line, Hon. Ledyard P. Hale, '76, with an appropriate speech presented the loving-cup, a gift of the students, friends, and trustees to Dr. Gunnison. Recalling at length Dr. Gunnison's immense services to the college, he said in conclusion, "And in token of our everlasting gratitude, love, respect, and regret at your departure, we give to you this cup, full of the milk of human kindness, always overflowing and never emptied."

The cup itself was a handsome goblet with three handles, inscribed with an appropriate sentiment in Latin. It stands fully twenty inches high on a mahogany pedestal, and is very artistic in its design.

In receiving the loving cup Dr. Gunnison thanked the trustees, faculty, students, and townspeople for their co-operation which had helped make possible the work that he had ac-

complished. "I consider you my dearest friends," he said, "and it is with deepest regret that I take my leave."

Many college songs were then sung, and dancing was enjoyed for a short time.

Among the older alumni who were present were C. W. Appleton, '97, H. M. Conkey, '99, W. B. Gunnison, '75, H. F. Gunnison, '80, Hugh Abbott, '03, V. P. Abbott, '67, C. S. Brewer, '91, Owen D. Young, '94, Nelson L. Robinson, '77, G. E. VanDelinder, '07, J. F. McKinney, '93, and J. C. Dolan, '96.

The reproduction in the cut on a previous page gives a very good idea of the loving-cup, the presentation of which was the central feature of the Canton Reception. It is of sterling silver, triple-faced, designed, mounted, engraved and decorated by Tiffany and Company, of New York. Its beauty, elegance and obvious value, do not constitute its chief worth; but they enhance and preserve it. The judgment and taste of mankind do but reflect the like qualities in the Creator, in discerning a fine relation between the most exalted sentiments and the most precious metals and gems. The purest and best in one form are instinctively chosen to express the purest and best in the other.

The testimonial was an integral feature in the planning of the Canton Reception. The prompt and general response to the committee's invitation determined the character of the symbol which should be chosen to express the public feeling. To one conscious of having done a great and needed service, all material awards of merit appear much like childish trinkets. The real recompense is in the soul satisfaction which ensues from such service. But it is pleas-

ant, "and praise is comely." And it loses nothing by being fitly and artistically enshrined.

The ceremony of presentation was simple and dignified, as beffited the occasion. The address on behalf of those who had united in the reception and testimonial, was made by the Hon. Ledyard P. Hale; and except for the introduction, and the concluding sentence of presentation, followed the same text as his address of the evening before at Albany, given above.

#### DR. GUNNISON'S RESPONSE

Friends, this is one of the supreme moments of my life. This large company that has come here tonight, the friends that I have known and loved for many years, the many words of kindness that have been spoken to me in these recent days, have touched me with the greatest feeling of gratitude that has been possible for me to possess. My life in Canton has been to me delightful; and while I remember sometimes with sadness the many things that have been my share to do, I look back upon it all and feel that I have few things to regret. I have received during my entire life undeserved kindness, a kindness that has always borne upon me the great joy of accomplishment.

I wish to speak a moment of the kindness of the Trustees of this institution. My esteemed friend, Judge Hale, who so kindly presented my name yesterday at Albany for the honor that the Board of Regents bestowed upon me, alluded with great skill to some of the things that I have been privileged to accomplish for this university; and I shall never forget the appreciation that came to me yesterday at that great gathering in Albany. But the people there were acquaintances and not friends, and tonight I feel that I am in the home of my friends; and it has been particularly borne in upon me during these last few memorable weeks and months that I held



HONORIS CAUSA

## INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

16

### *A Record and a Tribute*

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HONORIS CAUSA

a very large part in your hearts. It will give me in my retirement a great joy to take with me the consciousness that I leave behind friends true and lasting, and I shall always enjoy and use my privilege to come back very often to this familiar place which I have loved so much.

I have been connected with this town for over forty years: as a student, as a trustee of the university, and for fifteen years as its president. As I think of these years and of the friendships that have been made for me, I rejoice with an exceeding joy that these friends are not to be lost. When I came to St. Lawrence I thought I did a most foolish thing. Three times by your kindness I had been elected president. At first it was impossible for me, much as I had learned to love the institution where I served as a student and as a trustee; but at last the third call came and the lure of St. Lawrence, which I had always loved, brought me from my pleasant home, where I expected to end my days, from my pleasant residence, from the city and from the church where I was ministering with a fair amount of success. That lure came from this north country, and despite wisdom, prudence, the kindness of friends, it brought me here. I was singularly unfortunate when the call came, in the fact that my wife was a sick woman in a sanitarium. For ten years during my residence here she dwelt under that great shadow with which you are familiar, and I was unfortunately deprived of that loving service and companionship which I believed and hoped was to be in my new work, the great help of my life. Through the providence of God, the cloud at last lifted and for several years it has been her complete happiness to stand at my side and give me encouragement and sympathy. I wish to thank the ladies for their great kindness that they bestowed upon her and for the help of the citizens in my work.

Today the trustees have held important meetings. I was asked at a late hour to excuse myself from the room. I hesitated as I did not know what would be done. As I rose reluctantly to go, I said to my friend Appleton, otherwise

known as Judge, "Well, I see that I am not wanted," and left the room. After a while I was waited upon by this same honorable judge and brought back to the room, where I received at the hands of the trustees the surprising intelligence and the great honor of election as "Emeritus President." When I came to this place I received the great honor to be called here to do work, but this new title came not in the hope and promise of success, but in the assurance of those who think that my work has not been entirely in vain.

It has been a great pleasure to me that for many years I have been privileged to build stones in the rising walls of this institution and that it has been a privilege also to weave some finer threads in the character and intelligence of all the students who have been under my care. I cannot thank the trustees too much for the large co-operation and sympathy that has marked our association together. In all my experiences I have found these strong men standing at my side, avoiding criticism, only asking what to do; and with great cheerfulness and service they have helped me in the great work that I have been privileged to do.

I want to thank at this time the Executive Board with whom I have been associated during my residence here. They have been more than faithful and they have been to me the most unfailing friends. When I first came and they asked me what I wanted done, I said, "I do not want to have around me a set of dummies and I do not want you to accept everything that I propose." Accordingly, with great liberty and sincerity, they have been very free in expressing themselves. They have sometimes differed from me on my policies and plans, but I have always compromised the situation by accepting their wishes, being sorry on my way home that they were not as wise as I was. But when I thought it out I found that these good fellows after all were right and I was wrong.

Then I want to thank the Faculty. When I came here I was a raw unlettered kind of a Freshman. I knew nothing of

college administration. The things I did not know if written in a book would fill the Encyclopedie Britannica; but I came in my ignorance to do the best I could. I was accepted with confidence, and during all these years, these strong men, whom I presently learned to admire, and soon to love, were very forgetful of my faults. Tonight I return to them with unspeakable gratitude thanks for their kindly consideration, for their great courtesy toward me that has attended our working together.

What shall I say of the boys and girls of the college? They have treated me so much better than I deserved. I have received from the boys and girls a courtesy and a kindness that will linger very long with pleasure in my mind. When I have met them on the streets, the hat has been raised. When they have met me in the president's room, if only for seances of a personal nature, they have greeted me with respect—not always with admiration, but always with kindness; and I hold our boys and girls in highest esteem. I shall follow them in the years to come with an unspeakable hope and gratitude, and shall hope for them the largest success.

I am very grateful to the townspeople. My relations with the citizens of this town have been pleasant; and while I have not been able to participate in their affairs as I would have liked because my work demanded my time and absorbed my energy, I hold this town in large esteem. During the past summer here I have chosen my home as the place of all others to spend the leisure hours of the summer vacation. I love the old town. It stands high in my esteem for its beauty, for the character and friendship of its people. I shall always think of Canton and shall think of it very much, with pleasure that I have been privileged to enter into its life and enjoy its privileges.

Speaking of the cup, I do not know what I shall do with it. It is a big cup and I am a temperance man. The only hope that I have is that I have brothers who are present to-

night who will perhaps consent to initiate me into the mysteries of the loving cup. Last evening at the very delightful dinner tendered me by Judge Hale, I said that I had been living for several years on a diet of egg-nog. Judge Hale who is an expert in all lines of liquors did not make that egg-nog right. I do not know much about it, as my daughter has been making it for me. I told him last night that I had been accustomed to drinking egg-nog. He called the waiter and I told him the different ingredients. It was in the city of Albany, where the temperance wave has not yet reached, and when I suggested that something must be put in to take away the taste of egg, he overdid the matter and made it very much like a cocktail. I do not know what that is but I understand it is very good. It seemed to me that I never tasted any concoction that smelled so strong of old New England rum. I was obliged to drink under the faithful guidance of my friend and it has kept me awake during the tedious journey home. I shall learn under the guidance of my brothers to mix in the bowl the punch, and when you come to see me, if the brothers who reside near me have not been there before you, I shall hope to take one of the handles and give you a taste of the contents—so dear to the hearts of gentlemen and ladies who have experienced some of these things—and let you study the inscription on this loving-cup, which is so likely to be a temptation to the burglars who infest the pleasant town where I am hereafter to pay my taxes.

Not to weary you with longer words, I wish to thank you, one and all, for the favors that I have received and for the great privilege that I have seen the supreme moment of my life—this moment, while I am standing here before this vast multitude of friends. May the Lord be with you and bless you and keep you, one and all.

TRIBUTE TO DR. AND MRS. GUNNISON BY  
THE SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE

Dr. Gunnison was not only largely instrumental in establishing the State School of Agriculture at St. Lawrence University, but has always taken a deep interest in its welfare. He visited the school often, speaking words of encouragement to faculty and students, and expressing his great gratification in its progress. So while the faculty and student body were invited to the general reception in the Gymnasium and responded generally and most heartily, they thought it best to show their esteem for Dr. and Mrs. Gunnison by a separate service. Therefore a special chapel service was held in their honor on the morning of October 30 in Dairy Hall. After music by the School Orchestra, singing, and a prayer, Dean Cook on behalf of the faculty and students presented the retiring president and his wife with a unique, yet appropriate testimonial. It was the seal of the university wrought in seeds. Many thousands of seeds were used in the process, and so artistically was the work done that without any artificial coloring not only the form but the color of each part of the seal was preserved.

In presenting this testimonial Dean Cook spoke as follows:

There is joy and sorrow on the hill these days—joy because President and Mrs. Gunnison have been spared to do their share of the world's work which was theirs to do.

Fifteen years ago St. Lawrence was struggling for a place

among our institutions of higher learning, today she is widely known and is performing a distinct service as a part of our educational system.

We feel sorrow at our parting with those we have come to love and to appreciate. A visit to the President's office always brought encouragement and renewed confidence to all who were favored to serve under him. Particularly did your speaker need this strong but kindly influence, which smoothed the way and straightened out the wrinkles. It was like oil upon troubled waters.

The State School is the youngest child in the University family. Ten years ago, before all men saw as they see now, President Gunnison with his clear vision foresaw that industrial education must be developed and given its rightful place in the educational policy of our state. Even before the beneficiaries were alive to these necessities, this man, coming out of an atmosphere not supposed to be conducive to the creation of such a vision, began to lay the foundations for this school, of which faculty and students alike are proud. This young child has needed correction and restraint, and always has it come from the guiding hand with firmness, tempered with charity.

As he leaves us may a wise providence take possession; may our faults and mistakes somehow, in some way be mysteriously prevented from taking root. May they be winnowed out and buried like chaff as we move along from day to day, querying what the future will bring forth. As a slight testimonial of our regard for you, Dr. Gunnison, and your good wife, we have built this seal, and now present it to you.

It is made of seeds which if permitted to grow would produce twenty-five distinct types of plants. No dead seeds were used; every one, a live seed expressing the life of our school, which we hope will never contain anything but live seeds, live thoughts, and live actions. No artificial colors were used to reproduce the university seal true to its official

coloring, again setting forth the character of our institution, standing before the world in its true color and expression.

It tells the year you came to St. Lawrence and the year you leave us.

It stands in its make-up for the association of college and school which have, under your wise administration, come to have each the sympathy of the other and each the confidence of the other.

Take this testimonial, coming alike from the student body and from the faculty; and may it be to you what your work and presence will be to us, a reminder of years of growth and blessing for St. Lawrence under your leadership.

When Dr. Gunnison rose to reply, as might have been expected, he received an ovation from the large student body. He spoke of the small beginnings of the school, with no other buildings than an old farm house and just a handful of students. He sketched its rapid growth in a few years to its present large proportions, with eight buildings finely equipped, and a student body of one hundred and fifty or more. He spoke most cordially of the good work that has been done and is being done, and the record which the students who have gone out are making for themselves. He said that the school had made a reputation that reached far beyond the limits of its own state. He spoke feelingly of the pleasant relations that had always existed between him and the faculty and student body. He declared that not the least of the things that had come to make the larger St. Lawrence, of which he was proud, was the Agricultural School. In accepting the testimonial, he expressed surprise at the possibility of such a piece of work, and

at the almost infinite labor and pains that must have been wrought into it. He said that it would be one of the most cherished gifts he had ever received.

#### HISTORICAL SKETCH

The series of events that gathered spontaneously about the close of Dr. Gunnison's term as President of St. Lawrence University suggested that a more permanent record of them be preserved than was afforded by the newspapers in which they were chronicled. When the suggestion came to be acted upon it was apparent that an outline of the historical antecedents of these events was required as an appropriate setting. What follows here is an attempt to provide such a brief historical introduction and summary.

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The outsider has without doubt remarked the fact that the six men reckoned as forming the presidential succession of the University have all been Universalist clergymen. The explanation of this fact is found in the circumstances of the origin of the institution. The preliminary agitation as well as the direct preparation for founding a school of this grade in Northern New York, began with the Universalists and in its earlier years was confined to them almost exclusively. It was their planting. And although the idea of having a school of theology only was soon expanded into the purpose to create a college also, to meet an obvious demand of the section it was situated to serve, it was

natural that the primary impulse and foster-care should persist.

The early years of the School, though marked by small classes and meager equipment, and dominated by what was for many years the ruling interest, the Theological School, were a genuine seed-time, during which an educational awakening such as the region had never known was occurring, and intellectual fellowships forming that were not without public results in the state, and beyond, in after years.

For a little more than forty years from the date of the opening of the earlier foundation, in 1858, the Theological School and the College had each a separate head, of co-ordinate rank. But on the retirement of Dr. John Clarence Lee from the presidency of the College and of Dr. I. M. Atwood from the presidency of the Theological School, in 1899, the Board of Trustees decided to have one head, and the Rev. Almon Gunnison, D.D., at that time of Worcester, Mass., was made the first President of the whole University.

Good work had been done in St. Lawrence from the beginning. Under the different administrations in both departments gains had been made. Those acquainted with its history through the pioneer period remember how often they were encouraged by some new token of progress,—a gift from some friend, who was described in the appreciative language of the time as a "munificent patron;" a "record" entrance or exit class; a new building projected or completed; self-sacrificing

efforts, originating with the ill-paid professors and local alumni, to increase endowments; accounts, happily not infrequent, of the way in which some alumnus, "out in the world," was forging ahead and bringing honor to his *alma mater*; and above all and through all, the invincible spirit of loyalty, noticeable whenever two or three sons or daughters of St. Lawrence were gathered together.

It was the remark of President A. G. Gaines, who bore for so many years the great weight of the task of being the foremost teacher in the College, the painstaking, watchful, inflexible guide and disciplinarian, and the wise counsellor and ready helper of his students, that he knew his was not "a name to conjure with" before the public to get money for the school; but he had tried, without sparing himself in any way, "to make St. Lawrence an institution worth maintaining." It is simple justice to a succession of hard-working and meagerly paid men to say that this purpose and effort characterized also the presidents before and after Dr. Gaines, and the instructors, who during that period were their co-workers.

But the institution, besides remaining small, was still struggling with many adversities when Dr. Gunnison came to it. The Theological School had been fairly prosperous. It was housed in its own building, Fisher Hall; its classes had for twenty years averaged larger than in any other seminary of the denomination; and its endowment had considerably more than doubled. That answered very well its relatively

modest requirements; yet its equipment was meager, and its President and faculty had been delayed in making a special effort to improve its material status by the overshadowing interests and needs of the College. The Theological School was the first to benefit by Dr. Gunnison's assuming the presidency of the University. One of his Worcester parishioners and attached personal friends, the late Mary F. Richardson, who was later on to leave her mark on the face and fortunes of the University, began with the generous gift of \$24,000 to the Theological School.

But none of the steps taken hitherto had been significant of the possibilities of the institution. Although not much had been said about a "greater St. Lawrence," a feeling had become general among the alumni and Trustees that there was room and a demand for larger things than had ever been undertaken. It was Dr. Gunnison's special qualification for the position to which he was called that he shared fully this feeling and embodied it more completely, perhaps, than any other man. His coming to it was hailed as marking a new era in its history, not only because he had proved himself a masterful man, bound to carry through what he set his hand to, but because his faith in St. Lawrence had never wavered in the darkest days, and in particular because he was recognized as one whose vision of the University took in a wider circuit of achievement and influence than had yet been marked out for her.

Usually the fulfillment in such cases lags notice-

ably behind the dream. It is not matter of record what Dr. Gunnison saw as his mind cast the horoscope of the coming years. But it is certain that those who persuaded him to enter on the task had no expectation that within fifteen years from the date of his accession such truly great changes and desirable improvements would be accomplished. If anybody had foreseen and predicted them he would have been deemed a romancer.

Many of the changes wrought are so patent that he who runs may read them,—the radical interior transformations of the old college building, now Richardson Hall; the extension of Herring Library by the addition of the beautiful Cole Reading Room; the erection of the Carnegie Science Building, with its fine and multifold equipment; the locating on the campus of a branch of the indispensable Weather Bureau; the rising, like magic, of the New York State School of Agriculture, with its colony of adjunct edifices and its multiplying accessories; the creation of an Athletic Field, of dimensions and thoroughness of construction to be ranked with the best in the State; the enlarged area made necessary by all these accumulations, now parked and graded so as to be not only attractive in itself but to lend attractions to all the rest of the interesting assemblage of edifices,—these are the visible, outstanding evidences, taken in by the eye of every visitor, of the creative genius that had been working these transformations.

The annual catalogue, swelled to twice its former

dimensions, registers the less conspicuous but more important changes in the life of the institution. The Brooklyn Law School figures here as a new-comer—an exotic but not an alien,—now completely incorporated with the University and profiting both by the association and by the watch-care of the President. Here, too, one finds the program and the meanings of the manifold departments of the School of Agriculture, as much an extension of the University's service to Northern New York as of its territorial area on the hill. More significant of the evolution of the University on direct lines are the lengthening lists of names in the several classes, connoting, as remarked by Dr. Gaines in his admirable summary of President Gunnison's record, elsewhere printed in this booklet, a student body several times multiplied since 1899.

It is this correspondence and balance between the outward signs of growth and the inward reality, that constitutes the solid foundation of Dr. Gunnison's administration of St. Lawrence. The institution he has built up is in no respect a show institution. The new buildings, the enlarged and improved grounds, like the increased libraries and laboratories and equipments, are the visible expression of the demands made by an indwelling and expanding life. The same fertile foresight that planned the new halls and devised the new departments, laid the trains that brought in the larger registration.

Those having inside acquaintance with the history of the development of educational institutions know

that the usual thing in such cases is a record of debt, keeping pace with, if not running ahead, of the record of improvements. The demands—the legitimate demands, for expenditure in every direction, in a growing college, cannot be ignored. They accumulate over night and become more clamorous every day. It is impossible not to listen to them, and equally impossible to answer them all. Yet it is dangerous to choose. Only a strong, competent administrator, endowed with wisdom and tact, can steer his course in such exigencies. For on top of the calls that are legitimate there is sure to be heaped many more, not really urgent, some for things not even desirable, but advanced by an advocate who has no doubt of their prime importance.

It is, therefore, a genuine surprise to find the balance-sheets during Dr. Gunnison's fifteen years at the head of St. Lawrence, disclosing at no time any considerable excess of expenditures over receipts, and at the end showing a margin to the good. When the increase in every department, in all lines of work and equipment, in buildings, furnishings, and every variety of appliance, as well as in salaries for instruction and custodian service, is taken into the account, along with coincident lowering in interest rates, the financial outcome of his administration stands forth as a truly remarkable achievement.

Chiefly, of course, President Gunnison's mastery of his large problem was shown in his ability to get money, or equivalent material contributions, for the

University. This is where he might have been expected to fail. Those who knew the situation and the field, felt that they could not rationally predict large success for him. "Where is the money to come from?" was echoed from every quarter. And money was what must be had, and in large amounts, to realize in any measure the conception of a Greater St. Lawrence. Only those who have never been charged with such a responsibility, and have never been out, beating the bush for some religious, philanthropic or literary object—for an ideal end—imagine that it is a light and pleasant undertaking. Those who have been there indulge in no illusions. They know it is one of the hardest human tasks, and as disagreeable as it is difficult.

But it is the province of a masterful man to turn dangers and difficulties into coins of vantage. They become to him opportunities of conquest. Dr. Gunnison holds in his composition a strain of the knight-errant. It girds him to be set a task that to the ordinary plodder looms impossible and to the practical man appears a bit quixotic. He loves to ride forth to such a fray. It was this element in him that was the prophecy of victory when he set out to find the stones to build the new St. Lawrence. A combination of courage and expectancy was the outfit that went with his vision; these twain buoyed him up as on wings of adventure when he went to meet and surmount obstacles that else had been walls of brass.

The discerning see, however, that getting money or

"making money" must be balanced at the other end with prudence in using it. Otherwise bankruptcy is only a day behind, and will surely overtake the improvident spender sooner or later. Dr. Gunnison looked as sharply after the outgoes as keenly after income. To this daily diligence in watching the leaks and resolutely stopping them, we owe it that his successor in the presidency will not have to bear, along with the necessarily heavy responsibilities of the position, the harassing weight of accumulated debts.

The last great round up of two hundred thousand dollars was Dr. Gunnison's crowning achievement. Not only was it the largest single lump added to the growing pile by his efforts, but it was absolutely essential to make the institution solid and put it beyond peril. So many and so important changes as had been effected entailed large additional expenses. Without a corresponding increase of endowment a yawning deficiency was inevitable. Besides, the President was keenly and sympathetically aware that the teaching force, while heavily burdened had been inadequately compensated. He had long purposed and often planned to relieve them in two particulars: By reinforcements of the faculties; by increasing the salaries of those whose long service had proved their loyalty and at the same time maintained the University. These objects were very dear to him, as his associates and friends well knew. But the sum he had set out to raise, every dollar of it, was indispensable to the realization of his plans. For three years he

carried that purpose and problem day and night. When, after great exertions and the apparent exhaustion of every promise of subscriptions and every variety of appeal, \$50,000 remained to be secured in order to complete the total and make any part of it valid, he remarked, "I *must* have that Fifty Thousand. And I have not the remotest idea where it is coming from; but I know I shall get it."

There spoke the prophetic soul, the predestined victor. No one could tell what made him so confident. He could not tell himself. But an invincible spirit within him, with fore-looking vision, interpreted what had been permitted to be accomplished and what remained necessary to insure the value of that accomplishment, to mean that the final and complete triumph was in store for him who went forward in faith.

#### FAREWELL SERVICE IN THE CHAPEL

Among the various events to which the resignation of President Gunnison gave rise, the service in the chapel on Friday morning, October 30, was the most home-like and touching. It was distinctively the Farewell of the University to the honored and beloved President. The students of the College and the Theological School, and the faculties of the two departments, came together, and in a simple, informal service, as arranged by a committee of students of which Hal T. Kearns, '15, was chairman, gave expression to their esteem and their sorrow.

The exercises opened appropriately by the singing of "The Scarlet and the Brown." The Dean of the Theological School, the Rev. J. M. Atwood, D.D., voiced the common sentiments and emotions of the hour in a prayer of exceeding fitness. The chairman then said that Prof. Charles Kelsey Gaines, Ph.D., had been chosen to make the address on behalf of the faculties.

#### DR. GAINES' ADDRESS

It is with a feeling of reluctance and much hesitation that I undertake to speak on this occasion. Not because of any reluctance to pay my sincere tribute to Dr. Gunnison for his great work—anything but that—but because mere words seem so weak and inadequate when set against deeds. And the great work of Dr. Gunnison in building up St. Lawrence University is expressed in deeds. It is written across the campus in brick and stone, for all to see; it is written in the archives of our college, literally in letters of gold.

A certain note of sadness is natural at such a time as this. The hour of leave-taking is always sad; I feel it and we all feel it strongly this morning. But I do not intend to sound that note today; I shall not mar this occasion with any words of sadness. We are met to do honor to Dr. Gunnison; to pay our heartfelt tribute when, his great task successfully accomplished, he seeks well-earned respite from his arduous labors. Let it be an hour, not of sadness, but of triumph.

In the case of a man of really great achievement, I feel that the highest tribute which any one can pay is to make plain what he has done. What this is some of the older members of the faculty know well already; others less fully; and the undergraduates, I feel, have but a very imperfect knowledge of it. They do not clearly realize that things on the hill were not always much as they see them now. Well, I

cannot tell it all; time would not serve. But out of the abundance furnished by Dr. Gunnison, I will endeavor to set forth some part of what he has accomplished.

Fifteen years ago St. Lawrence was a very shaky proposition. After almost half a century of slow but intensely vital growth, there had come a serious check in its development. The classes, always small, were getting smaller. The college spirit, so strong in earlier years, was at the lowest ebb that I have ever known at St. Lawrence. The endowment was still pitifully inadequate, with little prospect of relief. To many—and of these I certainly was one—a sudden collapse of the whole college edifice seemed imminent.

How many among you realize what a stressful and critical period the years just past have been for weak colleges everywhere? If any in this time of rapid growth did not grow, they were threatened with extinction. This was the alternative—either they must quickly show themselves worthy and able to live, or they must die.

At such a moment we looked abroad for a man who could save the college and assure its future. When I say "we," I mean some of the older members of the faculty, all the board of trustees, and many loyal alumni. We were all oppressed with a heavy sense of responsibility. If we made a mistake—Heaven help the college! We looked, and we saw one man—one man in whom we had faith that he could do this work—Dr. Gunnison. And we made no mistake.

To persuade Dr. Gunnison to undertake this disheartening task was not easy. But he had always believed in the college and loved it. He could not resist its appeal. And a strong man, conscious of power to do and seeing the way, is confident where others might shrink. Though with natural reluctance, still he accepted the call, and in the fall of 1889 became President of St. Lawrence University.

Were we justified in our choice? Was he justified in his acceptance? The whole campus, and the long line of students who marched across it to this meeting, are the sufficient answer. But let me indicate briefly.

In the year 1900 the graduating class numbered seventeen; in 1908, fifty-one—three times that number; and in 1912 sixty-six received their diplomas—the number being almost quadrupled. And the college spirit, from its lowest ebb, had risen again to full tide, so that a long column of students, such as marched this morning paraded the streets of Canton with banners and shouts and songs, with all loyalty joining and heartening the president in that final effort to secure an adequate endowment the success of which has assured the future of St. Lawrence. So the spirit of 1886 returned, and history repeated itself; but—and this is a habit which history has—it repeated itself on a much larger scale.

When Dr. Gunnison came to St. Lawrence there stood on the campus three real college buildings—for I will not count the old wooden gymnasium which you are now so eager to replace with something better—the old main building, now called Richardson Hall, Herring Library, bare of its present extension, and the Fisher Memorial belonging to the Theological School. First the Cole Reading Room was added to the Library, increasing its value many times. Then came the Carnegie Science Hall, with all its admirable equipment. Do you realize that not many years ago all departments were crowded together in one unsuitable building? The partitions of three or four smaller rooms, I remember, had been knocked out to make a place for chemistry, and all those singular odors that emanate from a laboratory penetrated every class-room. Not for one day could the present work be carried on under the old conditions. Next a United States Weather Bureau Station appeared on the edge of the hill; then the first building of the School of Agriculture; then the Dairy Hall; and then—all those minor structures that now dot the landscape all the way to Little River.

Fifteen years ago—I will not say that you could kick a football quite across the campus at a single bump, but it would not have needed many repetitions. Now it would cost you almost a day's labor to drive a ball around the full cir-

cuit of the college grounds. And in those days there was no athletic field, and all games were played on the hard-beaten mud of one little corner of the little old campus, close among the college buildings. Now you might travel far to find a larger and better athletic field than ours—secured for us by Dr. Gunnison's efforts.

You take pride in your athletics. In 1900 we had no athletic record; I do not remember that we had ever played against a real college team. And today the main student body is about to march to Hamilton, fired with the hope of adding a fifth to a series of already four football records. It is Dr. Gunnison who has made this possible for you.

But these are mere incidents of his work. He found here a university of two departments, the College of Letters and Science and the Theological School; he leaves it with four, having added the Brooklyn Law School and the State School of Agriculture. Greatest of all, the college endowment, utterly inadequate when he entered upon his office, amounting to scarcely more than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, is now more than half a million—almost quadrupled by the president's strenuous and indefatigable labors. How difficult and discouraging his task often appeared, only he can tell. Hardest of all was the crowning achievement,—the heart-breaking fight against time for the winning of that final two hundred thousand which has ended the sheer penury with which St. Lawrence had struggled for more than fifty years, and at last set the college on a firm foundation.

I have been asked to speak for the faculty. They have done what they could. They have served the college with unswerving devotion in fair weather and foul; some have even died at their posts. They have done an indispensable work, not to be forgotten—for without their staunch loyalty the life of St. Lawrence might have been sapped at the root and all efforts in its behalf made vain. But apart from this they claim no credit for the president's great achievement. His work is peculiarly his own; though none can rejoice more heartily in his success than do the faculty.

And here let me pause to remark, their task is still unduly hard. Their number has not increased at an even pace with the rest; while the roster of the undergraduates has been quadrupled, theirs is barely doubled,—and their burden is in no way lightened, though the appliances and the reward are now more adequate.

Dr. Gunnison, in behalf of the faculty, I salute you as the man who has saved the college that they serve and love, and placed it on a firm foundation; as the man who has enabled them to make their work more effective by better equipment in every department of instruction; as the man who has made their more adequate remuneration possible, and who has filled their hearts with new courage and hope. And I am sure that all—students and faculty alike—join me in wishing you many years of health and happiness, and the joy of the consciousness of a great and worthy work triumphantly accomplished.

At the close of Prof. Gaines' remarks, Mr. D. G. Sherwin, '15, President of the Thelomathesians Society, was called on to speak for the students.

#### MR. SHERWIN'S ADDRESS

No words the students can say would be an expression of our deep feelings of gratitude and esteem for you Dr. Gunnison. And so it remains for me in a very brief manner to intimate the thought that is back of this service. And I would explain first to you its purpose. On last Saturday evening you were tendered a reception by all your friends, the trustees, alumni, towns-people and students. Because we were only a part on that occasion, we could only partly and imperfectly help you to understand our attitude. And it was because the expression of this attitude demanded a more personal outlet that we students have come here at this service to greet you.

On that same Saturday last, the trustees of the University attempted to show you somewhat of their appreciation by appointing you the first President Emeritus of St. Lawrence University. And that decision in this appointment was unanimous. We, as students, can only bid you good-bye and God-speed, but by coming here together, in a body, we can do that unanimously.

There should be little of actual sorrow in such a parting as ours for we have such a wealth of personal memories, and such a store of friendly relationships for keepsakes. These incidents will remain with us always and will necessarily recall to our minds the bigger things that you, our President, have accomplished.

Because I have felt that I could not completely or aptly express the sentiments of the students and their appreciation, I would use the words of another, who in speaking of Parting and Forgetting has this to say—"What faithful hand can do these? Our great thoughts, our great affections, the truth of our lives never leave us. Surely they cannot separate from our consciousness, and they shall follow in whatsoever that consciousness shall go"—It is just this thought of lasting gratitude, lasting remembrance, and lasting appreciation that we as your students wish to leave with you.

#### TRIBUTE OF THE THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL FACULTY

After fifteen years of service as president of St. Lawrence University, Rev. Almon Gunnison, D.D., LL.D., is now about to surrender the cares and responsibilities of the office. In view of so important an event, the faculty of the Theological Department of the University wish to put on record their appreciation of his genuine interest and constant co-operation in the work of their department; and to testify to the esteem and love which their labor and fellowship with him through these years have cemented. Both as a man and as an

official, he has proved himself a loyal friend and fellow-helper. They desire, therefore, to express their sincere regret that these happy and profitable associations have come to an end.

Though absent from us, we assure Dr. Gunnison and his devoted wife—whose kind and thoughtful acts are a treasured memory—that they are not forgotten. We shall follow them with our interest and affection, and pray for their health and happiness.

J. M. Atwood,  
I. M. Arwood,  
G. E. Huntley,  
H. P. Morrell.

#### ACTION OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Chamber of Commerce of Canton, New York, desires hereby to record its deep sense of appreciation of the fifteen years' work by Dr. Almon Gunnison as President of the St. Lawrence University, and to express its regret that he is so soon to sever his relationship with the University and the town.

As a citizen of our town Dr. Gunnison has been foremost in all movements which have made for our permanent advancement and benefit. No agitation for good was ever started here without his loyal and enthusiastic support; no plan for the higher welfare or happiness of our citizens failed to secure his whole-souled adherence and active aid.

As head of St. Lawrence University, in his official capacity, he has carried that institution far along the road which will eventually place it among the greatest institutions of learning in our land; in his personal relations with the students he has always been the kindly adviser, the sympathetic friend and the cordial social equal.

As a man of affairs Dr. Gunnison has stood for sterling business integrity, and has ever set his face against retrogression on any proposition, public or private.

Canton owes Dr. Gunnison the debt due the loyal, farsighted, fearless, honest, openhanded, prominent citizen who has advanced the interests of the community in which he lived, not only by his personal labor but by his example and precept.

This organization feels that this resolution but feebly expresses the general attitude of Dr. Gunnison's fellow citizens toward him, and regrets more than it can say that all it can do is to express its appreciation of the fifteen well rounded, golden years of honorable activity which Dr. Gunnison has given us out of a life which has been one long record of usefulness to his fellow-men.

#### LETTERS FROM EDUCATORS AND PUBLIC OFFICIALS

PRESIDENT RHEES, THE UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER,  
ROCHESTER, N. Y., Nov. 3, 1914.

*Dear Sir*—I trust that I am not too late to say a word with reference to my neighbor, Doctor Gunnison, in connection with his withdrawal from active service at St. Lawrence University.

Doctor Gunnison and I assumed our responsibilities for our respective institutions at about the same time, and during all the years of my sojourn in the State of New York the occasional meetings with the President of St. Lawrence University have been the source of a good deal of pleasure and profit to me. His voice has been heard in academic councils in the State on many occasions and with much interest and respect.

Your neighbors know something of the significance of the services which Doctor Gunnison has rendered St. Lawrence during these years, and they congratulate you as much as they admire him.

With heartiest good wishes for both the University and its retiring President, and the hope that he may see many years of the happy leisure of the ripest years of manhood, I am

Very sincerely yours,  
RUSH RHEES.

ACTING PRESIDENT HOOVER, TUFTS COLLEGE,  
MASSACHUSETTS, Nov. 3, 1914.

*Dear Sir*—I thank you for your letter informing me that you are planning a formal and permanent recognition of the services of Rev. Almon Gunnison, D.D., as President of St. Lawrence University for the past fifteen years, for Tufts College desires to be counted with those who would do honor to your retiring President.

Dr. Gunnison was favorably known by us here at Tufts, before he went to St. Lawrence, as a genial gentleman, an observant traveller, an entertaining lecturer, and an enthusiastic patron of education. At that time, we counted the University fortunate in securing him for its leader. As the years have passed, we have rejoiced to see increasing prosperity come to the College and new honors come to him. The increase of endowment, the adding of many new departments of education and research, the intensifying of "the St. Lawrence spirit," proved him to have been a tireless worker, a wise organizer, a persuasive pleader and a strong personality. These fifteen years have been the full, mature years of his life and he has given you his best. He has won the retirement he now seeks, and our wish for him is that for many years he may enjoy his well earned freedom and our wish for the College is that it may continue on its upward course to greater usefulness.

It gives me great pleasure to send to you and to Dr. Gunnison this greeting on behalf of Tufts College.

Very sincerely,  
WILLIAM L. HOOVER,  
Acting President.

PRESIDENT DAY, SYRACUSE, UNIVERSITY,  
SYRACUSE, N. Y., Oct. 27, 1914.

*Dear Sir*—The educators of our State unite in expressions of regret that Dr. Gunnison's impaired health forces his retirement from the Presidency of St. Lawrence University. They unite with equal emphasis also in their hope for his recovery to a degree that will at least permit him to enjoy with comfort the quiet days that are his by right of a great service to the cause of higher education.

Dr. Gunnison's success as a College creator and administrator has been of the first order. He has lifted St. Lawrence above the horizon and made it an institution that commands respect and confidence. He has accomplished his own work without jealousy or petty rivalry that grudges the success of his neighbor. He has been appreciative of genuine work for the cause of education wherever he has seen it. He has been genial, affable and courteous in intercourse with his co-laborers.

Dr. Gunnison has justified the wisdom of the trustees who appointed him and has shown in the fifteen years of his administration all of the elements of a great college president.

The alumni are debtors to him for he has added largely to the value of their diplomas. The community has had in him a personality of positive and helpful influence.

The State, the friends and the causes for which Dr. Gunnison has wrought so nobly are not to lose him. While he lives he will emphasize and enforce his past in us by his beautiful character and when his translation comes at last they will abide to increase through all the years.

The stars that shall gather in his firmament he will recognize as his creation and they shall shine forever.

Very truly yours,  
JAMES R. DAY.

PRESIDENT THOMAS, MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE,  
MIDDLEBURY, Vt., Oct. 30, 1914.

*Dear Sir*—I received your letter of October 19th and it gives me great pleasure to testify to the esteem in which I hold Doctor Gunnison.

I was born in northern New York and have always retained a keen interest in its welfare. One of the most encouraging tokens of progress in that country in recent years has been the growth of St. Lawrence University under the administration of Doctor Gunnison. I mean by growth, not merely expansion in numbers, but larger ambitions, clearer conceptions of opportunity, and worthier ideals of service. Doctor Gunnison has been the leader who has changed effectively the popular notion of St. Lawrence from that of a sectarian school to that of the public institution for higher education in the northern counties of the Empire State. Some day on the new foundation his faithful toil has laid there will be erected a university adequate to the vast territory which is its parish and worthy of the sturdy stock who subdued it from forest to fertile field.

Faithfully yours,  
JOHN M. THOMAS.

PRINCIPAL HAWKINS, STATE NORMAL SCHOOL,  
PLATTSBURGH, N. Y., Oct. 28, 1914.

*Dear Sir*—I rejoice in the opportunity to pay my sincere appreciation and respect to Dr. Almon Gunnison upon this occasion of his retirement from beneath the weighty burdens of his executive career. It is my hope, that being relieved from the fatiguing cares of college administration, he may enjoy many full years of happiness and contentment in the honor which is his and the cheerful freedom to do and say without hindrance the things of which the big world stands so much in need and which he is so completely capable of do-

ing and saying. In the loss of St. Lawrence may a larger society find a wholesome gain.

I have known Dr. Gunnison for many years with affection for the loveliness of his personal qualities and profound admiration for his large heart and sagacious mind, and, in common with all his brethren in that profession of which he has been so worthy an exponent, shall greatly miss the charm of his presence and the wisdom of his counsel in the affairs in which we are concerned.

Sincerely yours,  
GEO. K. HAWKINS.

PRESIDENT DAVIS, ALFRED UNIVERSITY,  
ALFRED, N. Y., Oct. 28, 1914.

*Dear Sir*—It gives me much pleasure to learn that it is proposed to publish a book expressing the appreciation of the friends of Doctor Gunnison for the remarkable services which he has rendered to St. Lawrence University and to education in general during his administration of the college, now soon to be relinquished.

Dr. Gunnison holds a high place in the esteem of the educators of the state. His strength of mind and character are everywhere dominant. While he has added so much to the local equipment of St. Lawrence University, he has enriched the state in the standards and ideals of education which he has promoted.

My personal relations with him have been exceedingly pleasant. Many of our citizens and students will long remember the Founders' Day address which he delivered at Alfred University on the occasion of our 78th anniversary in 1913.

In his retirement from active work, Alfred University extends to Doctor Gunnison most cordial greetings and very best wishes for many years of restful and useful enjoyment.

Yours very truly,  
BOOTH C. DAVIS.

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, THE STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, ALBANY, Oct. 28, 1914.

*Dear Sir*—I am glad to learn that the alumni and the friends of St. Lawrence University are recognizing the eminent services of Dr. Gunnison on the occasion of his retirement from the Presidency of the University.

Dr. Gunnison's work at St. Lawrence University has been notable. The progress of the University under his administration has been remarkable as regards both the material and the scholastic interests of the institution. During his administration, Dr. Gunnison has seen St. Lawrence University advance from an institution that was about to close its doors for lack of support to a strong, vigorous school with increased resources, increased attendance and increased interest and energy. While others have helped in this work, the personality of Dr. Gunnison, the man, has been the predominating influence. St. Lawrence University and in fact all Northern New York, owes to Dr. Gunnison a debt of gratitude that it can never hope to pay and that it can only inadequately express.

I regret that I was unable to be in attendance at the reception tendered him and to express to him on that occasion my appreciation of his services.

Very truly yours,  
CHAS. F. WHEELOCK.

SUPERINTENDENT MAXWELL, THE CITY SUPERINTENDENT  
OF SCHOOLS, NEW YORK CITY, Oct. 23, 1914.

*Dear Sir*—I am glad indeed to learn that Dr. Almon Gunnison's friends are preparing to render him due honor on the occasion of his retirement from the presidency of St. Lawrence University.

I have known Dr. Gunnison for nearly thirty years, from the time he was a successful and popular pastor in Brooklyn, until the close of his term of office as President of St. Lawrence University.

*Almon Gunnison, D.D., LL.D.*

rence University. In all of that time, he has been among the foremost in every good work for the advancement of scholarship and the uplift of society.

Very truly yours,  
W. H. MAXWELL,  
City Superintendent of Schools.

PRESIDENT BUTLER, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, IN THE  
CITY OF NEW YORK, Oct. 22, 1914.

*Dear Sir*—I regret to learn of the forthcoming retirement from active service of President Gunnison of St. Lawrence University. All of us who are in touch with the work of higher education in this state and in the nation are familiar with his ability and character and with the sterling service which he has rendered as President of St. Lawrence University. He will carry with him into his well deserved period of rest and refreshment the good wishes and esteem of all of us who have been his colleagues and associates for years past.

Very truly yours,  
NICHOLAS MURRAY BUTLER.

EDITOR MCKINSTRY, WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES,  
WATERTOWN, N. Y., Oct. 23, 1914.

*Dear Sir*—May I not address a word to your committee at this time, expressive of the appreciation which we feel for the great service Dr. Almon Gunnison has rendered the North Country, during the years of his connection with St. Lawrence University?

The University at Canton is the only college in northern New York. We value it highly. We are a clannish people up here, not narrow but jealous of our own institutions. We are proud of a home university of such acknowledged standing that we can send our own sons and daughters there to be educated. We feel that Dr. Gunnison has been largely instrumental in bringing to the school its present general recognition as a university of worth.

When he became its president, he inaugurated a campaign for its upbuilding that was fruitful in results. He has always been careful of its scholarship. He has insisted that the mere idea of growing physically by adding more buildings, should not become paramount. Its growth in scholarship has ever been before him, and he has always emphasized this feature.

His service has been most successful, and the present-day university is a monument to his labors. He has placed St. Lawrence on a firm foundation for the work of those who follow him.

The presence of Dr. Gunnison in northern New York has been beneficial in other ways for he has moved among us, he has spoken at our meetings, he has made us better by contact with his trusting, peaceful and kindly personality. He has disseminated good that will continue long after this generation is gone. No other man who has labored in northern New York during the years of its settlement has accomplished more for the people as a whole, than he.

Yours very truly,  
W. D. MCKINSTRY.

PRESIDENT STRYKER, HAMILTON COLLEGE,  
CLINTON, N. Y., Oct. 24, 1914.

*Dear Sir*—Dr. Almon Gunnison as President of St. Lawrence University has rounded a long and honorable term of service. He has eagerly given fifteen years of the very core of his life to his arduous efforts to broaden and deepen the influence of a work and institution dear to him. It has been a pleasure to me to meet him as I have—all too seldom—and to feel that even a little I knew another watchman and sentinel on the educational walls ever alert and devoted.

I am truly sorry that he closes this chapter and I beg leave thro you to proffer my sincere congratulations to him upon the memories and the friends that always will remain his own.

Cordially yours,  
W. WOOLSEY STRYKER.

PRESIDENT STOWELL, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA,  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, LOS ANGELES, Oct. 31, 1914.

*My dear President Gunnison*—A New York paper gives me the information that you are about to seek release from the official burdens under which you have labored for the past ten or more years. My first impulse is to congratulate you, for I know something of the cares of administration. You have reared for yourself a lasting monument which the future cannot pass unnoticed; you have inaugurated a new era in the history of a growing institution and have set new ideals before the youth who have been connected with it. I can conceive of no work more useful or more satisfactory. In less than a quarter of a century, most of the public men of the day will be forgotten, but your memory will be fresh as long as St. Lawrence endures. When you compare the equipment, the aesthetic, and the scholastic ideals of St. Lawrence as you took the Presidency with the same as you now retire, you will get my thought of the greatness of the work wrought.

With this thought of congratulation is associated a certain measure of sympathy, for I realize that there must be a sense of loneliness as the farewell is said to college life. There is an inspiration in college associations which cannot be described or appreciated by one who is a stranger to the experience.

It will be impossible for you to retire to inactivity. I hope therefore that you will find a congenial occupation that will keep you in touch with young life.

I do not forget my own personal obligations to you for what I have received at your hands. My own life has been greatly helped by your service.

At present I am at the head of the Graduate Department of our University. In this graduate work we have registered since last commencement over 200 Bachelors representing 75

institutions. My duties are not light, but I am enjoying the work. With pleasant memories

Yours with esteem,  
THOMAS B. STOWELL.

JUSTICE HUGHES, SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 31, 1914.

*Dear Sir*—I count it a privilege to have a share in the tribute to the retiring President of St. Lawrence University. Dr. Gunnison has rounded out a career of rare usefulness, as preacher, writer, and educator, and we are all debtors to him for what he has so successfully wrought. We of New York are especially under obligation to him for his work as President of the University—a distinguished service to the State which I am glad of this opportunity gratefully to acknowledge. He retires with universal esteem and with the best wishes of a host of friends.

I trust that there will remain to him many years of continued vigor.

Sincerely yours,  
CHARLES E. HUGHES.

COLLECTOR DANIELS, OGDENSBURG, N. Y., Oct. 28, 1914.

*My dear Dr. Gunnison*—When the residents not only of this County, but of this North Country heard of your resignation and knew that you were to leave them, they more keenly and deeply regretted your decision than you can realize. Many, yes very many of us knew you personally and each felt honored by the acquaintance. Those who were not so fortunate, knew you so well by reputation, that they too felt that this section of our State was losing a citizen that it could ill afford to spare.

There are those friendships in our lives that make memory dear and we, who are to be separated from you as you leave us to enter new scenes and surroundings, can still find pleasure-

ure in remebering the genial, the gentle and winning characteristics which have so endeared you to us.

The great institution of learning which you have built up will always remain a monument to your high ideals of life. There are hundreds of men, scattered over this country, upon whom, to their great advantage, you have stamped the impression of your own good life, and the world is better that such as you have lived in it. With what pride you can look back on your own useful life and what a comfort it must be to feel that you have ever followed the teaching of the Master, and that when he calls, you can truly say "I am ready."

Most sincerely yours,  
WILLIAM H. DANIELS.

#### LETTERS FROM GRADUATES AND PERSONAL FRIENDS

REV. H. B. TAYLOR, ST. PAUL'S UNIVERSALIST CHURCH,  
ADAMS, MASS., JUNE 29, 1914.

*My dear Dr. Gunnison*—I'm downright sorry that you felt you must give up the Presidency even though you deserved to loaf or do whatever your soul desired after the biggest piece of work done by anyone in the denomination for at least half a century, not to go back before.

But gratitude and long life and many more satisfactions attend you.

Cordially yours,  
H. B. TAYLOR, '95.

LEO F. WILLSON, ST. ALBANS, VT., JULY 16, 1914.

*My Dear Dr. Gunnison*—When I read in my last Laurentian that you had resigned I could scarcely believe my eyes. I had never thought of St. Lawrence without you at the helm and I haven't realized it yet. I am sure it won't seem like the same old place without "Foxy Almon" at the head of it. I know of no one who has earned a rest more than you and I trust you will thoroughly enjoy every min-

ute of yours. You may well feel proud of what you have done for St. Lawrence as it is not given everyone to accomplish so much with so little. I know all the alumni feel as I do. They are mighty proud of their president and what he has accomplished.

I can't blame you for wanting a rest but at the same time I regret it is going to take you away from St. Lawrence. With my very kindest regards in which Mrs. Willson joins, I am

Most sincerely yours,  
LEO F. WILLSON, '06.

LOUIS HEATON PINK, ATTORNEY AT LAW, FORTY-FOUR  
COURT STREET, BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK  
CITY, JUNE 15, 1914.

*Dear Dr. Gunnison*—I was sorry to see that you had resigned. I realize that you are entitled to a rest. You have earned it and the gratitude of every son and daughter of the old college. You have been the great architect, the great builder, what you have sown will be reaped in the centuries to come. Not a bad job to look back on. I hope when my time comes to retire I can leave as fertile a field, as well harvested.

But you must be tired of speeches and of letters, and I only want you to know that I, like all the rest, have a very deep affection and admiration for "Uncle Al."

Sincerely yours,  
LOUIS H. PINK, '04.

REV. B. B. GIBBS, SAINT PAUL'S UNIVERSALIST CHURCH,  
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA, JUNE 28, 1914.

To few is it given to perform the great service, and leave so enduring a monument as the old school rejuvenated and her work enlarged, which you will have done.

With love and blessings I shall always remain

Yours,  
BURT B. GIBBS, T. S. '93.

DR. GEO. L. PERIN, THE FRANKLIN SQUARE HOUSE, A  
HOME FOR WORKING GIRLS, GEORGE L. PERIN, PRESI-  
DENT, BOSTON, NOV. 2, 1914.

*My dear Dr. Gunnison*—I have to acknowledge that we have done fairly well at the Franklin Square House, but when I get through here and am ready to pack up, if I shall deserve half as much credit as you deserve for your work at St. Lawrence, I shall be very happy. I regard your achievements for the University as nothing less than phenomenal. We have a new phrase down here with which to describe the World's Champions. It is the "miracle man," and so I call you the miracle man in college administration. I don't know anybody else who could or would have done it.

I am not yet able to form a picture in my mind of you at rest. You will probably be writing for various papers and magazines, and yet I hope you will try to have a little rest and a good deal of fun. So far as I can remember you have not looked at your wife for the last twenty-five or thirty years. How would it do to sit down and spend one whole evening with her, read her a love poem? How would it do to take her on a trip with you—to Egypt, or San Francisco, or Tokyo? I would recommend now that your college work is done a second honey-moon for you two frisky young people.

I have taken your new address and propose to keep it handy. I expect to be over in Brooklyn every two or three weeks from this time on and propose to use your house as my hotel. I think it would be an improvement over the Manhattan.

Please drop around and see me as often as you can. The oftener you come the happier you will make us.

With kindest regards to Mrs. Gunnison, I am,

Yours for keeps,  
GEORGE L. PERIN, '78.

DR. R. E. SYKES, FIRST PARISH UNIVERSALIST CHURCH,  
MELDEN, MASS., NOV. 4, 1914.

*Dear Dr. Gunnison*—It was a splendid climax and I am especially gratified, that you have been made and really are President Emeritus. There certainly are rewards, whose value can not be rendered in coin, as you surely can testify.

The action of the trustees seems to me wise and I'm sure must have your approval. It seems along the lines you suggested, and I have no doubt but the final action, whatever it may be, will be equally satisfactory to you.

There's a wise providence in the life of institutions as in individual lives. The career of St. Lawrence indicates this. I suspect for a time you will miss the activity and excitement of a life of administration but when you get adjusted to the new conditions, no doubt you will be happy and contented.

Sincerely,  
RICHARD E. SYKES, '83.

IRVING BACHELLER, RIVERSIDE, CONN., Oct. 23, 1914.

*Dear Doctor*—Tomorrow my heart will be in Canton with you and your friends who will, I believe, try to express their affection for you and their deep appreciation of your services to the university. I should like to take a look at you and Mrs. Gunnison and sing your praises and hear them sung. But I must content myself with sending this letter to remind you of my love and of my regret that you desire to be relieved of your burdens. Others have laid excellent foundations, but you have been the first great builder that our institution has known. You have raised it into goodly proportions and given it the guaranty of permanence and will have left to your successors a task far easier than that which confronted you. For these accomplishments you shall be honored of all its children in the years to come. What unfailing skill and devotion has distinguished your term of ser-

vice there. "You have brought many captives home to Rome whose ransoms did the general coffers fill."

Yours sincerely,  
IRVING BACHELLER, '82.

JUDGE CHARLES W. APPLETON, CITY MAGISTRATE'S COURT,  
CITY OF NEW YORK, SEPT. 31, 1914.

You know that I am, personally, exceedingly sorry that you are leaving the college. I believe that you have erected for yourself upon that campus, a great monument, and that in all the future history of the college your administration will rank as the strongest. It has been marvelous, to my mind, that you could possibly have accomplished anywhere near what you have. My residence in Canton was during the time that the college was rapidly going down. Nobody seemed to be able to stop its decline. But, immediately after you took hold, there was a most marked change for the better, and I do hope that you will not let go now, until the whole matter of the presidency is settled, if possible, by unanimous vote of the trustees.

With very best wishes, I am,  
Sincerely yours,  
CHARLES W. APPLETON, '97.

A. F. LANSING, ARCHITECT, 1 BURDICK BUILDING,  
WATERTOWN, N. Y., OCT. 14, 1914.

*My dear Dr. Gunnison*—It was with much regret that I learned of your resignation as President of St. Lawrence University. St. Lawrence University will never be the same to me, if you are not there. Some one may have your position, but he cannot fill it.

The new President has a high standard for him to follow at St. Lawrence. If he can accomplish one-half what you have done, he should throw roses at himself.

Yours very sincerely,  
A. F. LANSING.

THE FIRST UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, WORCESTER, MASS.  
*Dear Dr. Gunnison*—Having learned that you have relinquished the office of President of St. Lawrence University, which you assumed upon concluding your pastorate with us, we send to you our sincere congratulations upon the success which has attended your efforts.

We thought we kept you busy in Worcester, but when we see what you have accomplished at St. Lawrence we feel that the added years have rested lightly on your shoulders and that though you had earned some exemption there has been no abatement of your arduous labors.

We trust the years before you will be brightened with many pleasant memories of old days and old friends, and gladdened with work for others which your manifold experiences so well fit you to do. Our only regret is that in retiring from your work in Canton you did not select Worcester for your home, though with so many of your home circle and kindred in Brooklyn, we can understand its strong attractions. We will agree to compromise if you will continue your church membership with us. Otherwise prepare for war.

Our latch-string is always out to you and Mrs. Gunnison and we trust at the next roll call you will be with us to answer to your names in person.

Praying that God's richest blessings may rest upon you both,

Sincerely, your friends of the First Universalist Church, Worcester, Mass.

GEORGE E. HILL, Clerk.

EDWARD B. LENT, FREEPORT, LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK,  
 Oct. 25, 1914.

*Dr. Almon Gunnison,*  
*President Emeritus of St. Lawrence University.*

*Dear Dr. Gunnison*—Mrs. Lent and I send to Mrs. Gunnison and yourself our heartiest congratulations on this turning point in your ever glorious career! Look back over

the road and at what point would you have changed the landscape? Pastor-preacher-teacher-philosopher and friend inspiring always to better things—exemplar and leader of young men to their better selves. In '88 when I went North you were a year younger than I am now and yet you seem the same—you are the same vigorous youth of the vibrant voice and winsome smile; the religion of brotherhood flowering in man! No, your income is not that of the elect 44 of this country who take in a million dollars a year but that is because you have been scattering your precious self among the multitude all these years. From now on you're entitled to the softest seat in the automobile and the best one in the theatre.

Long may you both be with your dear ones in Brooklyn.

Sincerely,  
 EDWARD B. LENT, '92.

THE REV. DR. WILLARD C. SELLECK, CUMBERLAND HILL,  
 R. I., OCT. 25, 1914.

*My dear Dr. Gunnison*—I beg to assure you personally of my profound appreciation of the splendid service you have rendered the university. You have "wrought a good work," and you will have the joy of knowing that you have built yourself into the institution in a large and substantial way, and to some extent have built yourself into a host of fair, young lives. What better joy can a man ask for, to crown his years?

I wish you again "peace, sweet peace." May the light of Divine truth continue to shine through your soul, as through a beautiful western window, and to be reflected into other hearts! There are so many hearts that are dark and sad!

With grateful recognition of all your courtesies to me, I remain, always

Very sincerely yours,  
 WILLARD C. SELLECK, T. S. '81.

THE REV. DR. FRANK O. HALL, CHURCH OF THE DIVINE  
PATERNITY, CENTRAL PARK WEST, AND 76th STREET,  
NEW YORK CITY, OCT. 27, 1914.

*My dear Dr. Gunnison*—At the Anniversary Celebration of the Chapin Home, which was held last Saturday at the very time you were receiving at St. Lawrence, all the people present voted to send you a greeting through me. I was supposed to telegraph you, but I did not get away till late and had a sermon for the next day stewing in my head and so I neglected to obey orders. So this is not a letter but a telegram which you received Sunday. It contains the love and respect of the assembled members and friends of the Chapin Home and all good wishes for the happy future of yourself and Mrs. Gunnison. We are all glad that you are coming to live in Brooklyn. We are all proud of you and shall hope to see much of you. I guess that is all, except that Mrs. Hall joins with me in sending our personal love to you and Mrs. Gunnison.

Fraternally yours,  
FRANK OLIVER HALL.

CHAPLIN COUDEN, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WASHINGTON, NOV. 10, 1914.

*Dear Dr. Gunnison*—We are indebted to your daughter for the "St. Lawrence Plaindealer" containing the vivid description of the great ovation extended to you by the trustees, faculty, students, and the people of Canton. The honors conferred upon you were well deserved; we only wish we could have been there and given our presence and sanction to all that was done in making your heart and your good wife's heart glad.

Your work and her's will live and redound to the good dear old St. Lawrence when you and she shall walk arm in arm in the golden streets of the well done good and faithful servants on the shores of eternity. God bless you President Emeritus and Madame President Emeritus!

It was a tribute well deserved and will be, we are sure, a well spring of joy to you so long as you shall live.

May the well earned rest in the new, old home surrounded by your children, grand-children, brothers and friends be fully and richly enjoyed.

We are having a little rest after the long drawn out congress and are thoroughly enjoying the relief from the daily task at the capitol.

With all good wishes to you and yours and the hope that we shall have the pleasure of greeting you in our home some time in the near future.

I am with renewed devotion as always your friend and admirer

HENRY N. COUDEN, T. S. '78

FLORENCE KOLLOCK-CROOKER, D.D., LONDON, ENGLAND  
SEPT. 1, 1914.

*My dear Doctor*—A belated copy of the Universalist Leader reached me here recently and from it I learned that you have determined to sever your official connection with St. Lawrence University in the near future.

I cannot resist from joining the large company of graduates and friends of St. Lawrence, in expressing my regret that you have thought best to bring your connection with the University to a close. However, if this decision is made to safeguard your health and to lengthen your years, then we accept the decision.

You saw the great need of leadership there. Your heart was bound up in your church. As you spoke your countenance betrayed the struggle that was going on between your duty to your church and your great love of the college. I remember how earnestly I plead with you for my *Alma Mater*, for my love for her was great, and my confidence in your ability to serve and to bring to higher things this weakling, was unbounded. I know of no other man who could work this miracle.

When I learned that you had yielded to the repeated call, had made the great sacrifice, laid down your church work and given yourself to the great undertaking, I know that now was the day of St. Lawrence's salvation, and you would be her savior. Now the long hard fight has been won, St. Lawrence takes high rank among the colleges of the land, and the warrior has all the honor and gratitude that a grateful and a devoted alumni can bestow upon him—their gifted and loyal benefactor.

Most gratefully and sincerely,  
FLORENCE KOLLOCK-CROOKER, T. S. '75.

HON. JOB E. HEDGES, NEW YORK, JUNE 11, 1914.  
*Rev. Almon Gunnison, D.D.,  
Canton, New York.*

*My dear Dr. Gunnison—*Yesterday was a very happy day for me, not only by reason of the honor conferred by St. Lawrence University, but for the pleasure it gave me to meet you and pass a most delightful day in the environment of so wholesome an institution as St. Lawrence University. My thanks also for the thoughtfulness indicated in your note of yesterday which I opened on the train.

June tenth will long remain in memory with me, and the degree I received will always be the means of recalling to mind your own gracious courtesy and the dignity with which you preside over the institution of which you have so many years been successfully the head.

My regards to Mrs. Gunnison.  
Very sincerely yours,  
JOB E. HEDGES...

REV. DR. EDWARD YOUNG, BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,  
NOSTRAND AVENUE AND DEAN STREETS, BROOKLYN,  
NEW YORK, JUNE 12, 1914.

*My dear Dr. Gunnison—*The announcement of your resignation is of great interest to the whole public, and I join

with your multitude of admirers in expression of appreciation of your invaluable services to the public, and that you may continue to be of public use in New York State.

I am particularly glad to learn that we are to have you as a resident of Brooklyn.

With highest esteem, I am,

S. EDWARD YOUNG.

THE REV. HARRY WESTBROOK REED, WATERTOWN, N. Y.,  
JUNE 15, 1914.

*My dear Dr. Gunnison—*You have made St. Lawrence what she is. Others of course went before and performed great tasks well, in laying the foundations and in fostering its growth. But like all institutions it had its critical period when it must cope with new conditions and meet new demands. It is needless to go through the whole story, but I feel that you took the Presidency at this most critical time and rendered a service such as few, if any other man, could have rendered. Almon Gunnison and St. Lawrence are today synonymous terms. But my deepest regret is a personal one. My esteem and affection have been very deep, and this you have known. It will scarcely be the old St. Lawrence without you.

HARRY W. REED, '99.

EX-PRESIDENT F. W. HAMILTON, BOSTON, MASS.,  
JUNE 18, 1914.

*Dr. Almon Gunnison,  
St. Lawrence University,  
Canton, New York.*

*Dear Doctor Gunnison—*I saw a newspaper statement of your proposed retirement after another year of service. It came as something of a surprise and good deal of a shock to me. You have been so long connected with St. Lawrence

and your administration has been so solidly and so admirably successful that I had expected it to last many years longer. I can hardly believe now that the college will allow you to leave its service. For the sake of the institution and the cause I hope it will not. Whether you go or stay, however, you have made a splendid record, one of which any man may well be proud and I am glad to have the opportunity of telling you that I appreciate it.

Very truly yours,  
FREDERICK W. HAMILTON, D.D., LL.D.,  
Ex-President Tufts College.

#### COMMENTS OF THE PRESS

[From the St. Lawrence Plaindealer, Oct. 18, 1914]

On Saturday evening, October 24, at the college gymnasium, there is to be tendered a public reception, to which the faculties, alumni, students, trustees and townspeople and friends in general of President Gunnison are invited, to meet President Gunnison, who is to lay down the reins of government of the University November first and move to his Brooklyn home.

Because of a general demand coming from all quarters that an opportunity be given many people to meet the Doctor and Mrs. Gunnison before their departure, an informal committee met some weeks ago and arranged to give this reception, and preparations are well under way. It will undoubtedly be the largest affair of the kind ever held in Canton.

Fifteen years ago Dr. Gunnison came here. He was faced with a stupendous task, to take charge of a university that greatly needed help, a small university seriously handicapped for funds to pay its ordinary running expenses. The task looked large. To accomplish it seemed an impossibility. It seemed that the most that could be even hoped for was to place it, as it stood, on a sound financial basis. Dr. Gunnison was not dismayed. He knew that he was entering on the

struggle of his life, a task that would deterred many another younger man, and he at once sent out his battle cry; not for funds to meet the running expenses of the St. Lawrence as it then existed, but for funds for an even greater St. Lawrence. Those living in Northern New York know how well he has carried out his pledge, made voluntarily. We have seen the endowment grow steadily from a few hundred thousand to many hundred thousands. We have seen buildings multiply. We have seen a State School of Agriculture come to us with its large interests, both in a money way and in its influence. We have seen a student body grow from less than a hundred to three and four hundred. We have seen a large law school annexed.

We have seen added to our assets as a community a man with loyalty and vigor, a man who stood for the best in everything. Through this man we have seen the annual revenue to the village increased by many thousands of dollars. His influence has been felt throughout the North Country. We have seen a man undaunted by obstacles constantly achieving new successes, and we have seen him sacrificing his years and strength for the University he stood for.

No sooner had the informal committee begun to canvass the situation and arrange for a reception to Dr. and Mrs. Gunnison than they began to realize the task set before them. Word came in from the townspeople, from the students, and from people far and near that they were going to be present and do honor to them. It speedily became evident that the committee must prepare to meet the popular demand, and so it was decided that no individual invitations could be issued, but that they must be given in a general way, through the press. The committee therefore extends its invitation, not only to the students, faculty and alumni, but to the business men of Canton who owe so great a debt to Dr. Gunnison, to their wives and to the people of Canton in general, and also to those whose friendship and admiration he has won everywhere, to be present on that night at the gymnasium and bid

Dr. and Mrs. Gunnison God speed, knowing full well that their energies can always be counted upon, both in the interests of the University, the town and the North Country.

[From *The Laurentian*, Oct. 1914]

The reception which has been planned for Dr. Gunnison promises to be one of the biggest affairs of its kind ever held in Canton. Not only will the students, faculty, trustees, and alumni pay tribute to the retiring president, but all friends throughout Northern New York will be invited to attend. We are about to lose a very valuable man from the North Country,—one who has rendered both the college and the community great services. He assumed the presidency at a time when St. Lawrence was so feeble in its resources that its continuance was not assured; he is leaving it more flourishing and better equipped than those who called him to this great task could have hoped. Greatly has he justified the wisdom of their choice; he has done for the University what no other had been able to do in equal measure. Under his administration the Cole Reading Room was constructed, Richardson Hall remodelled, Carnegie Science Hall erected and equipped, the Theological Chapel refitted and adorned, our admirable athletic field purchased and at great cost brought to its present state,—all this, and much more. The Brooklyn Law School was added to the University; a United States Weather Bureau Station was established on the campus; the State School of Agriculture was founded, its extensive grounds secured, and its many buildings erected. And then, as a crowning feat, the greatest service and most difficult task of all, the two hundred thousand dollar endowment fund was raised by his untiring efforts and in spite of many discouragements. Well has he earned, not only the respite from his arduous labors that he now seeks, but all the honor that the University can bestow.

[From *The Ogdensburg Journal*, Oct. 26, 1914]

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of St. Lawrence University held Saturday in Canton Dr. Almon Gunnison, the retiring president, who handed in his resignation last Spring to take effect the first of November, was appointed President Emeritus at an annual salary of \$1,000. Dr. Gunnison will return to his home in Brooklyn, where he resided before taking charge at St. Lawrence fifteen years ago. As President Emeritus he will continue to take an active interest in and exert a strong influence upon the affairs of the college over which he presided so long and so ably. Owing to the difficulties which will be faced in obtaining a successor who will be qualified to step into his shoes and carry along his work, the trustees will take their time before coming to a final conclusion. The board took an adjournment until January and this is believed to mean that there will be no appointment before that time.

Saturday evening a farewell reception was held in honor of Dr. Gunnison in Canton, which was attended by several hundred people. Dr. Gunnison was presented with a magnificent loving-cup as a token of remembrance. The presentation was made by Hon. L. P. Hale and a sympathetic response was made by Dr. Gunnison, who was deeply touched by the incident. He will leave for Brooklyn the present week and will carry with him the sincerest best wishes of the whole north country. His departure is not only a loss to the college but to the citizenry of this part of the state. He belonged not only to St. Lawrence but to the whole region.

[From *The Brooklyn Eagle*, Oct. 25, 1914]

Canton, October 24—A notable gathering of students, professors, trustees and townspeople was held this evening in the gymnasium to say farewell to Dr. Almon Gunnison, who, after fifteen years of service, retires on November 1 from the presidency of St. Lawrence University. Last summer Dr. Gunnison announced his resignation, stating that he had

always planned that when he reached the age of 70 he should give up active work and return to his home in Brooklyn. He was graduated from St. Lawrence in 1868, and continuously since that time has been closely identified with the University, serving as a trustee during most of that period, and on two occasions declining the presidency. When he left the pastorate of All Souls Church, Brooklyn, he went to Worcester, Mass., and ten years later was persuaded to go to Canton.

As a result of the great work which he has done for the college and as evidence of the esteem in which he is held by the people of Canton and Northern New York, the large hall in which the reception was held could not at one time take care of all those who came to do him honor. The stores of the village were closed at an early hour that all could attend the meeting. It was a veritable outpouring of the entire community. The students of the junior class were the ushers. Refreshments were served to all, and the occasion, while one of sadness, was a magnificent tribute to the man who was so much beloved by all who knew him.

A great many letters from the alumni and from friends of the college were received, which will appear in a souvenir book which is to be presented to Dr. Gunnison and which will also include a report of the tribute given on Friday at the meeting of the Board of Regents in Albany.

The following letter from Dr. St. Clair McKelway was read:

Albany, October 23, 1914.

"My Dear Judge Hale—The pleasant experience in which we have joined at the fifteenth convocation in grateful recognition of the Rev. Dr. Gunnison constrains me to congratulate the St. Lawrence University on the affection in which it regards him, and yourself on the terms in which you made for yourself and your colleagues that fact known. He deserves all that can be said, and his service to citizenship, to

the pulpit and to all right uplift deserves to be mentioned everywhere his name is honored.

"Please be sure that Brooklyn holds Dr. Gunnison in high regard and bright remembrance.

"Sincerely yours,  
"ST. CLAIR MCKELWAY."

L. P. Hale, counsel of the Public Service Commission of the Second District, a graduate and trustee of St. Lawrence, was asked to represent the University and to speak for the trustees, faculty, students and friends of the retiring president to the large assembly.

The board of trustees had come from their distant homes and the celebration was one of the most notable in the history of the University, and the town. The day before President Gunnison was the guest of the Board of Regents at its great convocation in Albany, where he received with Dr. Taylor, of Vassar College, who also was retiring, the appreciation of the State educational authorities. Judge Hale in very happy phrases summarized the administration of fifteen years of Dr. Gunnison at St. Lawrence, paying high compliment to his efficiency and his success.

A response followed from the retiring official. He rehearsed the story of his coming from his New England home to enter upon his untried work. The institution was at a low ebb. The dream of the president was for a larger St. Lawrence. The address of Judge Hale indicated some of the things that had been accomplished during his administration. The student body of the college department had increased three-fold. The four buildings had increased to twenty-five. The endowment had multiplied four-fold. The annual income had increased in equal proportions. The Law School in Brooklyn had been established, which is largely attended; an agricultural school, with 200 students, had been created, which was the precursor of the many schools of like character in the State; an athletic field had been created; a building

for a Weather Bureau had been built by the United States Government; old buildings had been modernized and refurnished, and at the close of the administration all bills paid and a substantial surplus was in the treasury after very substantial increases in the salaries of the faculty.

President Gunnison spoke of the harmony which had prevailed. Faculty, trustees, executive committee and students had shown entire co-operation, with the alumni and citizens of the town had won his gratitude for the many kindnesses he had received. With vigor unimpaired he had tendered his resignation, leaving the institution, he thought, with every condition for a successful career in the future.

A magnificent loving-cup was presented, and with all good wishes the company separated.

Dr. Gunnison will make his home in Brooklyn, taking up his residence in the Flatbush section. The committee had invited the alumni and many friends from out of town, and they were present in large numbers, including many from Brooklyn.

[From The Brooklyn Times, Oct. 28, 1914]

Brooklyn, and more particularly the Eastern District, honors and appreciates heartily and thoroughly, Dr. Almon Gunnison, whose service as Universalist pastor here was as acceptable to his Creator as it was beneficial to his congregation. So there is no note of discord, no jarring of harmony in this community at the announcement that Dr. Gunnison has been made President Emeritus of St. Lawrence University, and that proper financial provision has been made for the old age that is the common lot of man.

Dr. Gunnison's services to the great educational institution of which he was the active head for fifteen years, have been incalculable. He has never wearied in well-doing, and the splendid status of St. Lawrence University now is at once a tribute to his administration, and an addition to the culture of the entire country.

[From The Hill News, Nov. 2, 1914]

After completing his fifteenth year as President of St. Lawrence University, Dr. Almon Gunnison left Canton on Friday evening for Brooklyn, where he will make his future home at No. 59 Rugby Road. His departure from Canton will be deeply felt, as Dr. Gunnison was loved and honored alike by the students of the University, the alumni, and the townspeople.

Dr. Almon Gunison took up the duties of President of St. Lawrence University on November 1, 1899, succeeding Dr. John Clarence Lee, who had served four years. At that time there were only four college buildings, Richardson Hall, Herring Library, Fisher Hall, and the Gymnasium. There were ninety-eight students in the College and fourteen in the Theological School, making a total registration of one hundred and twelve in the University. The endowment at that time was \$156,000, and only \$2,800 was received for annual registration fees. At the present time the endowment fund has been increased to \$562,000 and the amount of registration fees to nearly \$10,000.

Taking as his ideal a better known and a greater St. Lawrence, Dr. Gunnison began at once, in the first year of his administration, his efforts to secure the necessary funds,—first, for the establishment of a professorship to be held by a woman. This was created the following year, after \$36,000 had been subscribed by former members of Dr. Gunnison's parishes in Worcester and Brooklyn. That same year, fire destroyed the main building of the Clinton Liberal Institute at Fort Plain, and in view of the unpromising outlook for the successful continuance of that institution, Dr. Gunnison saw in the possibility of incorporating it with St. Lawrence University the best solution of the problem. This was accomplished largely through his efforts, and with the transference of the charter came a fund of \$40,000 with \$50,000 more subject to a life interest in favor of the present beneficiaries. Many bequests which had been made the University were paid

that year as a result of the personal efforts of President Gunnison.

In 1902, Edward H. Cole, of New York, gave sufficient funds for the erection and endowment of the Cole Reading Room, and the following year the building was opened to the students of the University. The preceding year saw extensive repairs on Fisher Hall, including the placing of several memorial windows in the Theological Chapel. In 1903, the Brooklyn Law School, in Brooklyn, which had previously been established and operated by a private corporation, was purchased and taken over by St. Lawrence University with the full approval of the State Board of Regents, and since that time has been remodeled and enlarged under the influence of Dr. Gunnison and the trustees. It is now under the complete control of the University, and is administered by an Executive Committee of the trustees in New York and Brooklyn. Dr. Gunnison has conducted the commencement exercises of this School and awarded the degrees for the past eleven years.

In the same year, 1903, President Gunnison succeeded in raising enough money from alumni subscriptions to place forty scholarships at the disposal of needy students, and to make many much needed improvements on the College Campus, including concrete sidewalks and cinder roads.

In the years immediately following no extensive improvements were made; but all this time Dr. Gunnison, through personal interviews with prominent alumni and others interested in the future of St. Lawrence, was working for an increase in the endowment. Through his efforts Carnegie Science Hall was erected, as a gift of Andrew Carnegie, in the fall of 1906. This is the most modern and the most completely equipped of any of the college buildings, and is probably the finest educational building in Northern New York. That same year ground was broken for the main building of the School of Agriculture, which came largely as a result of representations of Dr. Gunnison to the late Congressman George R. Malby, of Ogdensburg, and former Assemblyman

Edwin A. Merritt, Jr., of Potsdam, strongly backed by the general sentiment of Northern New York. These representatives secured the necessary legislation, and later an appropriation of \$250,000 for the establishment of the present Agricultural School in connection with St. Lawrence University. The following year, an annual appropriation of \$35,000 was voted for the maintenance of the school. In the fall of the same year the United States Government established a Weather Bureau station at Canton, and erected the building now seen on the College Campus. Early in the spring of 1907 work began on the Athletic Field, for which a gift of \$13,000 had been secured from Mr. Thomas Weeks, of New York, from whom the St. Lawrence University Athletic Field has received its present name,—although it was only after much persuasion on the part of Dr. Gunnison that Mr. Weeks allowed his name to be affixed to his gift. During the previous year Mrs. M. A. Richardson gave several thousand dollars for the remodeling and repairing of Richardson Hall, the original college building, which then received its present name.

One of the greatest achievements of Dr. Gunnison was the raising of the sum of \$200,000 for the endowment fund,—a movement started in 1911, and completed in 1914. A gift of \$50,000 was offered the University if the amount of \$150,000 could be raised by its friends. This additional sum was raised by Dr. Gunnison by dint of great labor, and as a result more than \$200,000 was permanently added to the endowment fund.

During the past few years, several new buildings have been erected for the use of the School of Agriculture as a result of State appropriations, among these being Dairy Hall, the dairy barns, the poultry building, and the horticulture building. Aside from this Dr. Gunnison has made it possible to set the salaries of the professors at a more adequate figure. Nearly all debts have been extinguished and a surplus created. Modern equipment and furnishings have been placed in all the buildings of the University.

During his incumbency Dr. Gunnison has seen St. Lawrence University grow from a small, obscure institution of scarcely more than a hundred students in all departments, to a university of nearly seven hundred students in the College of Letters and Science, the School of Agriculture, the Law School and the Theological School. He has seen the endowment increased almost four-fold, the student body quadrupled. He has seen the establishment of the Law and Agricultural departments, the campus area multiplied many times, the construction of one of the most admirable athletic fields in the State, the remodeling of the old buildings and the erection of many new ones. By all these improvements St. Lawrence has secured a well recognized and honorable place among the small colleges of this country, and Dr. Gunnison has won a degree of esteem and love in the hearts of all loyal Laurentians which it is not easy adequately to express.

(From the Christian Leader, July 4, 1914)

It will be the general impression that Dr. Gunnison has won the right to retirement, yet not less general will be the regret at his going. He came to St. Lawrence University when its affairs were at low ebb, its resources were well nigh exhausted, and none knew where to turn for help; it was a time of crisis for all small colleges, when they must either grow or die. He came at a great personal sacrifice; as the loved and honored pastor of our large church in Worcester, Mass., his position was enviable, and comparatively few cares accompanied his congenial work. But to the call of duty he answered, "Ready."

The story of his achievements in rehabilitating the college, securing for it large if not ample endowment, and placing it in the front rank of the smaller colleges of the land, reads like a romance. New buildings have been erected, and new departments added, until the institution has won the right to the title of university.

And this has come very largely through the personal efforts

and the personality of this man, who commanded attention and won the support of multitudes of people, who came to trust in the enterprise because they trusted him. Such an achievement as the raising of the last two hundred thousand dollars for the endowment ranks little short of the marvelous. And in the administration of the local affairs of the college, though without experience in such lines of work, Dr. Gunnison gathered an able and congenial faculty to which a constantly increasing company of students was drawn.

But perhaps the most delicate task the new president was obliged to face was the readjustment of the institution to its wider relations with the educational world. Like every college, St. Lawrence was a child of a church, and, like every other, came to the time when conditions demanded the loosing of the ties. How to loose them without injustice to the church, the institution or the conditions, was the problem which has troubled many a college president during the last twenty years. And it is still a question with many as to whether the matter has ever been settled right. Whatever sectarian motive may have promoted the founding of all these institutions of learning, it was seldom that they were administered with sectarian bias, or that any serious restraints were placed upon teacher or teaching; really schools and colleges were generously contributed to the cause of education by the churches. The Universalist Church, though one of the smallest, made its full proportion of these contributions, and not the least of these contributions was St. Lawrence University. But the time came when if the college was to maintain its place among the others of the land and enjoy the benefits and privileges of others, it must follow them to a new patronage. To do this without injustice to the heroic founders of the college, and preserve certain inalienable rights, was the task to which Dr. Gunnison addressed himself.

In all probability his successor will not be a minister, and probably not a Universalist. All things being equal, justice might call for one or both, but the call will undoubtedly be

for an "educator who is an administrator." But the conditions which take the colleges from the churches at the same time compel justice to the churches, and as the churches have made their contribution to education, it is not likely that if there be losses in the separation, the loss will fall more heavily upon the schools than upon the churches.

However, the management of Dr. Gunnison through this trying experience was greatly to his credit, and he is worthy of all honor. He will lay down his task next November, instead of a year from then as first announced, while still in vigor of body and mind, to take up his residence in Brooklyn, N. Y., from which place he will be able to continue his large service to his church and the cause of education.

[Editorial from the November Laurentian]

The resignation of Dr. Almon Gunnison from the active presidency of the University and his election as President Emeritus, a distinction never before conferred by St. Lawrence, marks the climax of a successful career, the culmination of a life of great usefulness and large achievement.

Almon Gunnison was born in Hallowell, Maine, on March 2, 1844. His father was a prominent clergyman of the Universalist denomination, being well known throughout New England. The future president of St. Lawrence received his preparatory education at the Green Mountain Institute, Woodstock, Vermont, and at Dalhousie College, in Halifax, N. S. Later he entered Tufts College, where he was a student for several years. He was graduated from the Theological Department of St. Lawrence University in the class of 1868.

Immediately upon graduation he was called to become pastor of the Universalist church in Bath, Maine, where he remained for three years, during which time his success was so marked that he was called to the very responsible position of pastor of All Souls Church, Brooklyn. This pastorate he held for nineteen years, greatly endearing himself to his people and winning the friendship and regard of ministers of all

sects. Upon leaving the city he was tendered a reception in which ministers of all denominations participated, making it a notable event in the religious life of the city.

His resignation from the pastorate of the Brooklyn parish was occasioned by his acceptance of a call to the First Universalist Church of Worcester, Mass., one of the largest churches in the denomination. The success which had attended his previous pastorates was repeated in Worcester, and his influence was soon felt in the life of the city. His election to the presidency of the Ministerial Union indicates the esteem in which he was held by his fellow clergymen. For several years he was also president of the Board of Trustees of the Worcester Public Library, and of the Welcome Mission, a philanthropic institution.

To Dr. Gunnison St. Lawrence University turned, in an hour of deep discouragement, as the one man capable of saving the institution and establishing it on a firm foundation. He had always loved the college and believed in its future; and this great task he accepted, though with much natural reluctance, in the summer of 1899, entering upon his new duties in November. He thus became the first president of the University as a whole, each department hitherto having had an independent head—anomalous as this arrangement seems now. The Laurentian of that month says: "Dr. Gunnison's acceptance of the high office to which he has been elected has been a source of much gratification to the students and alumni, and to all friends of the institution. His arrival will be the signal for the awakening of a new interest in the University and its welfare." Those who compare the St. Lawrence of today with that of 1889 know well how far that prediction fell short of the truth. But his great achievements in this field are elsewhere related in this issue.

Dr. Gunnison is well known as a writer and lecturer. He has written several books of essays and travel sketches which have found much favor with the public. He has traveled extensively in Europe, and in Egypt and Palestine. Before

coming to St. Lawrence he had lectured extensively, and has long been recognized as a speaker of unusual charm. He is undoubtedly one of the best known men in the Universalist denomination. For many years he was one of the general trustees of the Universalist Church, and he has always been deeply interested in every denominational movement.

Dr. Gunnison's interest in St. Lawrence University dates back far. He became a member of the Board of Trustees in 1878, more than twenty years before he assumed the presidency. He has always believed heartily in the small college, as is shown in an article from his hand on "The Advantages of a Small College," which appeared in *The Laurentian* of March 1899.

St. Lawrence was most fortunate to secure as its president, at a critical juncture, such a man as Dr. Gunnison. Being known far and wide as a man of influence and ability, he soon brought to the University a degree of recognition which it had not previously enjoyed. His untiring efforts and notable achievements for St. Lawrence have indeed been recognized and appreciated far beyond the immediate constituency of the college. Time and again he has been accorded honors by other colleges. The Degree of Doctor of Divinity had been conferred upon him by St. Lawrence in 1883, and the degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred by Union College in 1901 and by Tufts in 1905. The esteem in which he is held by the New York State Board of Regents was shown by the honors recently accorded him in Albany by that body.

The retirement of Dr. Gunnison from the active administration of the University does not indicate any waning interest on his part. It is merely a much needed relief and respite demanded by his advancing years, well deserved and won by a career of exceptional activity and achievement. He carries with him, as has always been shown in so many ways, the best wishes of a host of friends.

[From the November Laurentian]

Dr. Gunnison came to the presidency of St. Lawrence University on November 1, 1899. It was a trying time in the history of the college, when the slender endowment had become wholly insufficient to meet the needs of the University. The professors were receiving very inadequate salaries, and the buildings were not equipped in a manner to maintain St. Lawrence's standards of instruction. There were only five buildings on the campus, the main building, the gymnasium, Herring Library, Fisher Hall belonging to the Theological School, and the President's house, which had not been occupied by Dr. Gunnison's predecessor. There was even a debt of about \$1200 on the gymnasium. Both arts and science classes were held in the old main building. Some of the class-rooms were heated by base burners, and it is said that the college girls vied with one-another in supplying the professors with "holders." One of the professors at that time had to act as librarian in addition to his other duties.

St. Lawrence found in Dr. Gunnison the one man fitted to guide it, as it were, through that critical period of its adolescence, and bring it into strong manhood.

In his first year's report Dr. Gunnison described his plan for building up the University, as "quickening general interest in its work, heartening old friends and securing new supporters, trying to broaden its work by obtaining students from a wider area and funds from friends both old and new." As a method of awakening interest in the college, Dr. Gunnison accepted numerous invitations to address teachers' institutes and conventions, schools, clubs, and churches. He took upon himself the burdensome task of soliciting funds. Among the first results of his labors was an increase in the endowment of the Woman's Professorship, of \$10,000; also the securing of the full Chapin Professorship fund of \$30,000. The year 1899-1900 shows an increase in the college endowment of \$34,000. At one time Dr. Gunnison even gave a series of lectures for the benefit of athletics.

An increase in the number of students was the next thing to be considered. Only seventeen students were graduated in 1900. There were forty members in the next entering class. There were forty Seniors in 1904, and seventy Freshmen the next fall. In that interval of four years there had been about fifty per cent. increase in the entering and graduating classes.

The new president did not overlook any means by which he might strengthen the college. The Laurentian, at that time in debt and sadly in need of encouragement, owes much to him for its reorganization. He early announced his intention of occupying the President's house on the campus, and the needed repairs were at once made in that building.

Progress was rapid in the next few years. The cornerstone of Cole Reading Room was laid in 1902. The single year, 1903, marks the purchase of the Dean Athletic Field, the completion of Cole Reading Room, the addition of the Brooklyn Law School to the University, and an increase in the endowment of the Woman's Professorship, making the immediate establishment of that professorship possible. A year or so before, an instructor had been secured for the department of Geology and Mineralogy. The department of Pedagogy was added to the curriculum, also the salaries of the professors received a much-needed increase.

In 1905 Dr. Gunnison's dream of a separate science building was realized through the gift for that purpose made by Andrew Carnegie. It is hardly believable that only ten years ago the departments of the college now occupying a three story building provided with all the modern equipment, were crowded into the Main Hall along with all the other classes now held there.

Shortly after the securing of the new Science Hall, a United States Weather Bureau Station was established on the Hill. The remodeling of the main building, since called Richardson Hall, by the gift of Mrs. Richardson, has had its importance in augmenting the efficiency of the college. A steam heating plant has long been in operation in place of the old stoves.

Only four years ago, although the college was on a firm footing and in no danger of collapse, it felt keenly the necessity of a larger endowment in order to carry on its work properly. Dr. Gunnison set \$200,000 as his goal, and, ever ambitious for St. Lawrence, set out in search of it. This time the students had a share in the enterprise, and rejoiced with Dr. Gunnison on the completion of the task.

It is, in a way, difficult for us to fully appreciate the extent of Dr. Gunnison's work here, because so much that on first thought might be ascribed to other causes might be traced indirectly to the new spirit and confidence instilled into the University by his coming. There is no doubt that for years to come the college will be feeling the benefit of the friendships which Dr. Gunnison has made for it.

### Note by the Editor

My impersonal testimonial to Dr. Gunnison is wrought into and throughout this Record and Tribute. But the opportunity to bear witness to a trait which I have much appreciated and admired in him has nowhere presented itself. I therefore subscribe it here. Dr. Gunnison did not lay aside his profession and character as a minister in becoming a college official. His earlier love was not allowed to be eclipsed by his later occupation. His service to the church and religion has continued unabated. As his pastor for three-and-a-half years, I have had the means of knowing how sincerely and deeply interested he has been in the great institution to which he gave himself in his early manhood. Always in his place at the Sunday service, never overlooking any extra meetings, ever ready to answer calls for his aid on any occasion, and such a helpful, hopeful, generous parishioner as to make his absence size up like a misfortune, Dr. Gunnison has met successfully a test to which not a few clergymen have proved unequal. Among his titles to a style of honor that never loses its lustre let this be frequently and fervently spoken.      I. M. A.

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TITLE**